FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 SEPTEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Political Developments — As clashes continue and tension increases in the Ash-Shuf Mountains, a responsible source cited by Damascus radio 15 September denounced the increasing U.S. military involvement in Lebanon as well as U.S. "intervention" in Lebanese internal and foreign affairs and warned of the consequences. The source did not mention new U.S. plans for a cease-fire in the Ash-Shuf with some Druze autonomy in the area as well as Druze participation in the government. Asserting that U.S. involvement will only foster Syrian-PLO relations, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf condemned the U.S. involvement and stressed that the PLO will not remain neutral if the United States or Israel interferes in Lebanon. The Jordanian paper *Ar-Ra'y* also criticized the U.S. decision, asserting that the "overt insistence on playing havoc" in Lebanon cancels out the task of the multinational force, Amman radio stated in its press review.

Saudi and U.S. mediation efforts to end the violence wracking the country continue although Saudi negotiator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan felt that the U.S. "threats" have negatively affected the negotiations, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Earlier, Saudi Arabia had asked the United States to give it 48 hours to try to reach an agreement among the various sides before Washington resorts to military measures to settle the situation, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, the Lebanese Cabinet turned down a Syrian condition that the Army be withdrawn from the Ash-Shuf before a cease-fire agreement is reached, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said.

Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt reiterated the same Syrian condition in a news conference in the Syrian capital reported by Damascus radio and also warned the multinational forces against intervening in the conflict. The PSP will only accept internal security forces in the area, he maintained.

Reviewing the recent Saudi and U.S. mediation efforts during an interview with Beirut radio, Foreign Minister Elie Salim expressed hope for a negotiated cease-fire with the Syrians and described the U.S. initiative supporting Lebanese sovereignty as well as the withdrawal of all foreign forces as the best option available. As for the joint accord with Israel, the government will continue to support the accord as "the only way" to ensure the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, the minister stated. Israel will not withdraw to the international border, however, until it is sure that a "friendly element" will be left behind which can establish order and guarantee there will be no more hostile activities against Israel from Lebanese territory, Defense Minister Moshe Arens told a rally in remarks reported by ITIM.

IDF intelligence chief Major General Ehud Baraq claimed in an interview with the Israeli paper *Bamahane* reported by *Davar* that there are 1,000 PLO soldiers in Beirut. Security sources cited by *Ma'ariv* asserted that the PLO forces fighting in the Ash-Shuf alongside the Druze are establishing a permanent presence there even though Israel has warned Druze leaders against allowing this to happen. Senior Phalangist officials visiting Tel Aviv also told the paper that the Syrian Army is planning to help establish Fatah dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa's men in Beirut.

Military Situation — After a night of sporadic shelling, the Lebanese Army again repulsed an attack in Suq al-Gharb as Lebanese Air Force planes flew sorties over Beirut and some mountain areas, Beirut radio and Radio Free Lebanon reported. Army units near Dahr al-Wash and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah also repulsed attempts by "Syrian-Palestinian-socialist" forces to infiltrate Army positions, the clandestine radio added. In Beirut, "communist gunmen" engaged the Army in "ferocious battles" in the southern and western suburbs, according to the Christian Voice of Lebanon and Radio Free Lebanon. Reflecting the continuing fighting, the Internal Security Forces issued an order broadcast by Beirut radio for all reservists to report for duty beginning 19 September.

An Israeli Defense Ministry official denied reports that Israel had provided arms for the Druze forces, in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio, while a Defense Ministry source cited by the radio also denied that Ma'asir ash-Shuf — scene of a Druze massacre, according to the Voice of Lebanon — is in an area under IDF control. In southern Lebanon, an IDF soldier was killed by bazooka fire near Tyre while IDF units which had deployed as far north as As-Sa'diyat later withdrew to Sidon, Jerusalem and Beirut radios reported. Meanwhile, in an unconfirmed report the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio claimed that an Israeli force had entered the Al-Kharrub district in the Ash-Shuf to reinforce Phalangist units.

Israel

Prime Minister Menahem Begin submitted his resignation to President Hayim Herzog 15 September through Cabinet spokesman Dan Meridor as Begin is still ill at home, Jerusalem radio reported. Following the resignation, Herzog announced in a statement broadcast by the radio that he will summon Knesset faction representatives to discuss forming a new government over the next few days.

Nine Knesset members from both the coalition and the Alignment announced that they will only support a national unity government which includes the Alignment in the Cabinet, Jerusalem radio reported. The Alignment will give up the post of prime minister and the finance portfolio if given the foreign and defense posts, representatives announced, according to the radio.

PLO Affairs

PLO reconciliation committee members met with Fatah loyalist and dissident leaders in Damascus and received a "positive" reply from the dissident faction to proposals on the formation of a provisional council which would handle Fatah's financial, organizational, and military affairs pending an emergency Fatah general conference, a Fatah official told KUNA. In an interview with the news agency, PLO representative in London Faysal Uwaydhah declared that dissension within Fatah is "vanishing" and the situation has "improved."

The PLO has offered Israel 8 Israeli prisoners in exchange for all the prisoners in Ansar camp and 1,000 prisoners being held in Israel, Salah Khalaf told the Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabus*.

Syria

Helicopters fired rockets at Aleppo prison 10 September, killing 150 Muslim Brotherhood members, and in a separate incident three explosions aimed against official institutions and an intelligence center rocked Homs, the Voice of Lebanon claimed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah left Damascus after meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam during a brief visit reportedly aimed at helping to heal the rift between Syria and Iraq, according to KUNA and SANA reports.

In a separate development, OPEC experts recommended an oil price and output freeze in a report to be submitted to the OPEC Ministerial Committee in Vienna, sources told INA.

Pilgrimage Dispute

Iranian Pilgrim Supervisor Musavi Kho'ini accused unnamed high Saudi officials of organizing and planning the police action against demonstrating Iranian pilgrims 13 September and reiterated the link between politics and the hajj rituals in a Mecca news conference reported by Tehran radio. Meanwhile, all the pilgrims injured by the police during the demonstrations returned to their quarters in a "fair state of health" after being treated by Saudi doctors, the radio said.

Libya

Recent statements by Vice President Bush that the United States is interested in finding a peaceful settlement in North Africa is part of the U.S. "political blackmailing and confusion," JANA asserted. U.S. actions have proved it is the United States that "instigates war, terrorism, and chaos" in the world, the news agency declared.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Salah Khalaf Views Current Palestinian Issues

Kuwait, Prisoner Exchange

LD150838 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0731 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait — Member of the Central Committee of the National Liberation Movement, Fatah, Mr Salah Khalaf [Abu Iyad] has expressed admiration for Kuwait foreign policy. In a statement in today's *Al-Qabas* he said that he has a high regard for Kuwait's official stance; what he admires is the fact that Kuwait's policy is balanced, and that Kuwait's recent attitude to the appointment of the U.S. ambassador is a genuinely nationalist one.

Replying to a question about the PLO convening an international conference to discuss the issue of the Ansar camp prisoners, Abu Iyad said that the question of the Ansar prisoners and prisoners in the occupied territories was discussed at more than one international conference. But, he added, what makes us hold back from calling for such a conference is the fact that there are currently negotiations to release 8 Israeli prisoners in return for all the prisoners at Ansar and 1,000 prisoners inside the occupied territory. He said he hopes that these negotiations will be completed in the coming weeks. He stressed that all Ansar prisoners would be released in addition to 1,000 prisoners in the occupied territories because agreement has been reached on the method of release.

Abu Iyad denied that there was a plan for the withdrawal of the Palestinians from the Al-Biqa' valley east of Lebanon. This, he said, is just an attempt to stab the revolution in a manner divorced from ethics and honor. Our presence in Al-Biqa' is a must, he said; we have not informed President Jumayyil that we wanted to withdraw from Al-Biqa'.

Differences, Reconciliation

LD150944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0818 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Sep (KUNA) — Abu Iyad expressed the belief that the Arab summit which is scheduled to be held in 2 months' time will be postponed. He attributed this to the existing Syrian-Iraqi difference, and also to Arab differences with regard to the Iraq-Iran war and our nonagreement on a formula to end the destructive bleeding of Iraq and Iran materially, morally, politically, and physically.

Regarding differences within Fatah, Abu Iyad said that it is not the first crisis. Fatah was exposed to a crisis in 1972 after its departure from Jordan; there was also an acute crisis about the attitude toward As-Sadat and other political issues in 1978. There was a third crisis in 1980. It was very extraordinary and was connected with some practices, but Fatah managed to overcome it although it lasted for seven months.

Replying to a question on the implications of Begin's resignation and Shamir's assumption of power, especially if the Labor Party accepts Shamir's invitation to join the government alliance, Salah Khalaf expressed the belief that the Labor Party will not agree to an alliance with the Likud. He revealed that a committee was set up to evaluate the Lebanon war after the battle, adding that it took the fighters and the cadres 400 hours, and that it concluded its work only 2 months ago. He added that the committee found that 79 officers and cadres [word indistinct] in the Lebanon war; they were referred to the revolution security court. A book is to be published about the work of the committee for the Palestinian and Arab people to know.

Abu Iyad said that he does not fear the truth, pointing out that the decision to set up the committee was taken last January, before there was a split (in Fatah). He said that he is stating this so that it will not be said that the decision to set up the committee was a reaction to the split.

Regarding reconciliation inside Fatah, Abu Iyad expressed the desire for dialogue on all issues and that there will be one vision regarding these issues which could be implemented immediately. He believes that there is a need for initiatives to resolve the difference, since to date there have been revolutionary initiatives in response to events. Abu Iyad wonders at the reason for the nonexistence of initiatives regarding events abroad and in Lebanon with regard to the Palestinians.

Regarding the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, Salah Khalaf expressed the belief that meeting with the Zionist forces must be rejected as the [word indistinct] of the enemy front must remain open so that none of these meetings reflected in negatively. [sentence as recieved] Regarding contacts with the enemy, he said that the Arab citizen must know about the contacts; they are not like the contacts which Kamil Sham'un and Fadi Afram were conducting with the Zionist enemy. One must act with extreme caution with the enemy front, as if walking a tightrope.

Regarding the resistance's stance toward events in Lebanon and the effect of current events on the Palestinian camps in Lebanon, Salah Khalaf said, "We are biased in favor of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement because the isolationist Phalangist plan in Lebanon has not ceased for one moment."

He expressed his hope that "President of Lebanon Amin al-Jumayyil will be above the bounds of his party's fanaticism and will be a president for all Lebanon."

Abu Iyad added that he expects revolution to break out in the Al-Jabal "since the Lebanese authority and the Phalangists, by their political composition, drove the people to the revolution." He said: "(?From) this starting point we are with the Nationalist Movement."

ARAB TIMES Interview

GF150532 Kuwait Arab Times in English 13 Sep 83 p 4

[Report on "exclusive" interview with Salah Khalaf by unidentified *Arab Times* diplomatic correspondent — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] A top-ranking Palestinian leader, Salah Khalaf, denied yesterday that Palestinian fighters are involved in the Ash- Shuf Mountain war in Lebanon. But he said: "We do support the Lebanese Nationalist Movement politically, morally, and naturally."

In an exclusive interview with the *Arab Times*, Salah Khalaf, popularly known as Abu Iyad,said: "The simple reason for our support for the Lebanese Nationalists is that they have been supporting the Palestinian struggle over the years and they are opposed to the Phalangists who are allies of Israel.

"Naturally we support the enemies of Israel."

Abu Iyad said the Phalangists dominated the Lebanese Government of Amin al-Jumayyil, which amounted to a domination by Israel of Lebanon. The Nationalists rejected the Lebanese-Israeli pullout agreement, and the PLO endorsed this rejection, he said. The commando leader said that Lebanon committed "a serious mistake" by signing an agreement with Israel because the accord did not have any public mandate and was considered a new Camp David agreement.

Answering the charge that the PLO are better fighters among themselves than against Israel, Abu Iyad said: "The Palestinian movement is a revolution and a democratic one. We enjoy freedom of expression in our ranks. Our revolution has the strength to live with different opinions, sometimes even conflicting ones. This is also a fact that our organisation is not a one-man movement."

He claimed that the present differences in the Palestinian ranks were a passing phase. "I have no doubt that we shall tide over this temporary phase and our movement will be stronger than ever. Even if some differences remain, we know how to live with them. After all, this is democracy."

The commando veteran said: "Once we establish a Palestinian state, it will be a refined democracy and as such it will be a leap forward in the Arab context."

He declared that the major drawback in the Palestinian struggle against Israel was "the absence of democracy in the Arab World." Asked about the friction with Syria and why the PLO wants to restore friendship with it, Abu Iyad said: "We don't judge political issues on a personal basis. The expulsion of Yasir 'Arafat and Abu Jihad from Syria was not a personal issue, and we won't let that incident stand in the way of maintaining the best relationship with that country."

Explaining the importance of Syria to the Palestinian resistance movement, the commando leader said: "Syria is located very close to Lebanon and is, in fact, a front-line state. It is one of our vital outlets to confront the Israeli enemy."

He said the dialogue between the PLO and Syria was going on to heal the rift, and it was hoped this would result in a positive end.

Reacting to what was seen widely as a PLO defeat in Beirut, Abu Iyad said: "I don't think we lost the Beirut war. The whole world knows that we withstood a full-scale Israeli onslaught, backed militarily and politically by the United States. For three months we faced the Israeli enemy and the full might of its arsenal." And of the PLO withdrawal, he said: "We were making a political move and not a retreat from battle."

Explaining the political aspect of the Lebanese finale, Abu Iyad said there were many factors, not the least of which was what he called "the Arab imbalance."

AL-ANBA' Interview

GF132120 Kuwait Al-Anba' in Arabic 12 Sep 83 p 3

[Interview with Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, by *Al-Anba'* correspondent Fatimah Mansur — place, date not given]

[Excerpts] Answering a question on the extent of Syria's response to the PLO leadership's appeal to open the way for the Palestinian forces — who left Beirut following the Israeli invasion — to return and participate in the current fighting in Lebanon, Salah Khalaf said: The statement which was made in this regard contains some errors because we are present in Al-Biqa' and in the north from the practical side. This presence does not need permission from Syria or others. That is why we continue to make an effective political contribution along with the Nationalist forces.

Mr Khalaf pointed out that the Palestinian resistance is against interfering in the current fighting because at present the Lebanese Nationalist Movement does not need military support due to their high military capabilities and morale. Also, their cadres have great fighting experience and can resist the terrorist plan which intends to restrain them and impose the accomplished fact on them.

Referring to news on improvement in Jordanian-Palestinian relations, especially regarding the dialogue on a political settlement, he said: This dialogue which is related to a political settlement is completely rejected. He said that there is no one in the resistance who wants such dialogue. However, the dialogue continues on Palestinian-Jordanian relations and Palestinians and their problems.

Abu Iyad reaffirmed that the dialogue on the political settlement or on some of the proposed plans is totally rejected by all Palestinians and that he will not accept the restoration of such dialogue.

He said that if the involvement of the U.S. forces or the multinational forces in battles around Beirut and Mount Lebanon increases, it will create a set of consequences which are known only by God. Any U.S. involvement, or involvement by some NATO countries which are currently present in Lebanon, and their stance against Nationalist Forces in Lebanon, will foster Syrian-Palestinian relations. Any resistance against the United States in the region requires the presence of a front equal to the current challenge and this front will be Palestinian-Nationalist Lebanese with Syria's support. I believe whatever is taking place in Lebanon is a test for all powers. I would like to mention here that we will not remain neutral in case of any U.S. or Israeli interference in Lebanon or in any neigboring state. We say with a loud voice that we are with any side which resists this interference.

Asked about a Palestinian attempt for military cooperation with Syria, Abu Iyad said: We proposed the issue of the large front which includes Syria, the Lebanese Nationalist Forces, and the PLO a long time ago but there were reasons — which I cannot disclose now — which prevented the formation of such a front.

He said: I say frankly and based on the current situation in Lebanon that in the light of the clear U.S. challenge and provocation in which some NATO forces are participating, and the assault against the nationalist forces in Lebanon, Syria has a role which exceeds all the present sensitivities. We also have a role exceeding all sensitivities. This is why we all adopt one stance to resist the U.S. assault.

Baghdad VOP Eyes Joint Forces' Activities

JN142020 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Recorded dispatch by unidentified radio correspondent]

[Text] The present state of affairs in Lebanon has not affected the joint forces' activities against the invading Zionists, particularly following the Israeli forces' withdrawal to the Al-Awwali River. In the past 3 days, the joint forces carried out several operations against the invading forces and those cooperating with them in An-Nabatiyah, Jizzin, and Tibnin. The Zionist enemy's radio and television sources admitted that many Israeli soldiers were seriously wounded.

The tight alliance between the Palestinian revolution forces and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's forces has not been abandoned on the battlefield in countering the Zionist enemy. This alliance showed itself to be an effective presence through continuous activity against the military presence of the Israeli invaders, whether to the south of the Al-Awwali River or in any other location of Zionist occupation.

Though the joint forces, which began the war attrition against the invading forces in spite of various difficulties and complicated circumstances, achieved numerous successes in this war, the [Israeli] partial withdrawal decision was not a result of Israel's desire to withdraw from Lebanon out of its respect for Lebanon's sovereignty. [sentence as heard] The Israeli partial withdrawal decision was a result of the daily war of attrition launched by the Lebanese-Palestinian joint forces. This war increased the number of casualties among the enemy's armed forces. There was a military operation by the joint forces almost every day. For a whole year, almost every Israeli paper continued to report the Israeli soldiers' casualties as a result of the war of attrition and the resistance operations, which were admitted by the Israeli enemy's authorities.

The enemy forces withdrew as a result of the blows by the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces. The enemy hoped that this withdrawal would reduce the number of casualties among its forces. It left behind the forces of the Lebanese Front, which were armed and trained by the occupying army. The enemy handed this front's forces important military positions in the mountain and Ash-Shuf in order to prevent the joint forces from plunging behind the occupation forces and inflicting more lossses on them. Enemy war Minister Arens was forced to announce that Bhamdun is a red line that should not be violated. However, the joint forces have never and will never recognize any such red or green lines, but will continue to further escalate their operations against the Zionist occupation in all its locations.

At any rate, today I learned that the Palestinian revolution's command — regardless of the obstacles placed before the revolution's forces and the joint forces in an effort to prevent them from carrying out their combat missions against the Zionist enemy — has adopted important measures which will strengthen the joint forces' moves against the Zionist invasion in southern Lebanon — thus bypassingthe current situation in the Lebanese areas, particularly in the mountain where fighting is now raging between the Nationalist forces on the one hand and the Phalangist army, U.S Marines, and their allies of the NATO forces, known as the multinational forces, on the other.

What we still have to say is that the Zionist enemy leaders wagered on the massacres as a method to halt the move of the Palestinian people and their fighting vanguard. In this regard, they committed the carnage of the century in Sabra and Shatila, where they killed Palestinians and Lebanese. The Palestinian and Lebanese masses and their joint forces have overcome the Zionist massacres and terror. The joint forces' daily, effective operations against the Zionist forces came as a practical reply to the bloody Zionist policy and to Zionist occupation as a whole.

'Arafat Contacts Salam, Denounces Aggression

NC141745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text][Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam has been contacted by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who is now in Tunis. In a long conversation on the Lebanese situation, 'Arafat expressed to Prime Minister Salam his denunciation of the aggression being committed against Lebanon.

Salam, 'Arafat Discuss Mediation

JN141912 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Telephone dispatch from George Bashir, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Beirut]

[Excerpt] [Former] Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam, who had a telephone conversation with Yasir 'Arafat today, spoke about the progress of the Saudi mediation. He regretted the failure of all efforts, despite the Saudi officials' goodwill and sincere Arab intentions and despite Lebanon's positive response and full support for the Saudi intiaitive.

Salam added: Neither the Lebanese Government nor we, who seek Lebanon's genuine interests, can accept any encroachment on the Lebanese legitimacy or the Lebanese Army's legitimate role to carry out its tasks —which we always insist are solely legitimacy, without discrimination between one side and another. Concluding, Salam said: The Saudi brothers are expected to tell in the very near future who responded to their initiative.

Reagan Criticized on KAL Incident Speech

PM141605 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 8 Sep 83 p 16

[Jihad al-Khazin article: "Crime and Crimes"]

[Text] I heard President Reagan trying, in a brief speech over television, to turn the world against the Soviet Union for shooting down the Korean airliner and the death of its civilian passangers in that now well-known incident. Although the speech lasted only a few minutes, the U.S. President used the word "massacre" 10 times or more to describe the incident — in addition to other words, such as "crime."

We have no quarrel with the U.S. President over the incident itself, which the President more than amply described. The Soviet Union is even worse than the U.S. President says. However, I am transcending the incident itself to discuss the question of international hypocrisy. The United States has virtually declared political and economic war on the Soviet Union for downing that airliner, but it ignores the crimes committed by its protege Israel, and even defends these crimes and prevents their condemnation by the Security Council, the same international body from which it is now seeking condemnation of the Soviet Union.

The United States found excuses for Israel when it shot down the Libyan passenger airliner in an incident almost identical to last week's incident over Soviet territorial waters, except that the Libyan airliner was shot down on occupied territory and in broad daylight.

What is strange is that, in his speech, the U.S. President attacked the Soviet Union very fiercely but stopped short of taking effective steps against it. It is in the interest of the United States to sell its grain surplus to the Soviets. Therefore, the number of victims, however great, will not make it do otherwise. Since the Soviet airline company Aeroflot is already banned in the United States and has been so for 2 years, the President merely reaffirmed this decision.

I never felt more sorry for the victims than when I was listening to the U.S. President's speech. Not only did he content himself with rebuking the murderer instead of punishing him, but he also exploited the blood of the victims and used the opportunity to talk about the U.S. need for the MX missiles and for stronger military defenses. This is an essential part of President Reagan's policy on which he finds himself in disagreement with Congress. In other words, the U.S. President found in the incident an opportunity for promoting his own policy instead of concentrating on the crime itself and the culprit.

Again we say that we know as much as the U.S. President and more about Soviet crimes, but we are sorry to see the United States unperturbed by the crimes committed daily by Israel, which does not dare do anything without U.S. support. Perhaps the incident of the Korean airliner came after the Libyan incident as a demonstration of divine wisdom from above, wisdom which has clearly escaped the U.S. President, judging by his speech.

U.S., Israeli Actions in Lebanon Scored

JN142220 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1609 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Talk by WAFA political editor]

[Text] Under the headline "The U.S. Determination To Partition Lebanon," the WAFA political editor says: The developments of the situation in Lebanon and the intensified fighting in the mountain area and around Beirut, which is becoming fiercer daily, pose a question about the future of all Lebanon. This is particularly so since the multinational forces have begun an actual intervention which might include military steps to which Israel contributes in order to settle the situation according to U.S. plans. The continued, feverish contacts and meetings which have taken place during the past few days between Washington and Tel Aviv in order to tackle the developments in the Lebanon situation clearly indicate that the scope of confrontation may expand to include the intervention of the multinational forces and Israel in Lebanon with the aim of partitioning Lebanon. This would be a first step toward U.S. attempts partition and fragment the whole region and impose U.S. hegemony on it so that this region may be completely dominated by U.S. influence for dozens of years to come. Such attempts aim not only at looting the region's wealth, but also at setting up advanced military bases to become a destructive field of confrontation when war breaks out.

The presence of the U.S., French, and British warships and aircraft carriers off the Lebanese shore, the repeated threats of the multinational forces, and the feverish U.S.-Israeli contacts to tackle the developments of the Lebanese situation place Lebanon and the region before impending dangers which threaten the Arab masses and regimes. These dangers must be taken into consideration so that everything is not lost and so that we do not come under full U.S.-Israeli influence and domination.

The question which is posed now is: Has the U.S.-Israeli waiting or the limited interference by the U.S. forces been due to Washington's desire to not involve itself in the war, or due to its desire to interfere more effectively at an appropriate moment when there would be an actual partitioning of Lebanon? A careful reading of the U.S. statements and military moves, as well as the U.S.-Israeli coordination asserts the second possibility and makes it almost certain.

Faced with all this, the solution which the Lebanese and Arabs have before them is the agreement of all the Lebanese on the need to achieve accord among themselves in order to preserve Lebanon as an Arab and unified country. The national Lebanese accord is the only channel through which the partitioning and fragmentation are repelled and the Lebanese cultural unity is preserved.

Many whispers and clamorous words were uttered blaming the Palestinian revolution for the failure of the Lebanese accord. Even several Arabs and Lebanese believed this, at a time when the Palestinian revolution always confirmed the opposite with practical evidence. It is now more confirmed than at any time before that the Palestinian revolution was the guarantee for the Lebanese people's unity — both land and people — and that its departure from Beirut has made the partitioning of Lebanon both

possible and an urgent ambition which the United States and Israel are trying to implement with all their strength.

PFLP Official Hits U.S. Plans in Lebanon

JN141618 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, has asserted that the U.S. decision to interfere in the region, as well as its threats to Syria and the PLO, are very dangerous steps. He said in a statement today that this U.S. decision indicates that Washington is determined to return to the policy which it adopted against the Vietnamese people, and that it has started its aggression against the Lebanese Nationalist forces.

Abu Sharif also clarified that the Palestinian revolution considers the presence of the U.S. fleets and Marines as a direct danger to the Arab region in general and to the Lebanese Nationalist forces, Syria, and the PLO in particular. He affirmed that the Palestinian revolution supports Syria and the Lebanese Nationalist forces in their confrontation of U.S. danger. At the end of his statement, he called on U.S. public opinion to take a firm stand against Reagan's aggressive policy.

Arab League Council Adopts Decision, Ends Meeting

LD142143 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2005 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Tunis, 13 Sep 1983 (SPA) — At the end of its 80th session this evening in the Tunisian capital, the Arab League Council recommended the severing of political and economic relations with Zaire and Liberia, the halting of material and technical aid to them, and banning dealings with all economic establishments and air, land, and sea means of communications belonging to the two countries. The Council also praised the decision of the Gulf Cooperation Council to sever political and economic relations with any state that reestablishes diplomatic relations with the Israeli entity. The Council also decided to place on the agenda of the coming meeting of Arab foreign ministers the issue of Israeli settlement. It stressed the impportance of calling the Security Council to meet as soon as possible to discuss the issue of Israeli settlement and the bestial actions by the occupation authorities against the original inhabitants, provided that the meeting is proceeded by an Arab political move in this context.

The Council asked the Arab League secretary general, Chedli Klibi, to take the necessary steps to convene an urgent meeting of the International Jerusalem Committee. The Council also called on member-countries and Arab League missions abroad to hold contacts with foreign states to explain Israel's objectives behind preparing Jewish youth in these countries to serve its ambitions, and to show the threat that this constitutes to the chances of world peace. Concerning Arab-African cooperation, the council set up a seven-member committee to evaluate this cooperation in its previous stage, draw up plans for the coming stage, strive to hold a joint meeting of Arab and African foreign ministers to prepare for the second Arab-African summit conference, and to work toward finding a peaceful and just solution to the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia while calling for the immediate withdrawal of the Ethiopian forces from Somalia territory.

The council decided to submit the issue of the provision of financial resources for the Arab fund for technical assistance to Arab and African countries to the next Arab summit conference, in addition to granting full support for the independence of Namibia and the dispatch of Arab delegations to consolidate relations with African countries. The Council called for providing assistance to Lebanon to deal with the damage caused by the Israeli invasion, and to combat the Israeli satellite plan. The Council urged the Arab countries to express their opinions concerning a maritime cable to link the Arab east and the Arab Maghreb countries, preserve the continuation of the Arab maritime company while reducing its expenditure in view of the stagnation in the international sea transport market, and support the Arab academy for sea transport. The Council also decided to prepare an integral plan for the development of the agricultural sector in the occupied Arab territories and to back the steadfastness of the Palestinian people. The Council endorsed the cooperation agreement between the League and the Greek Government concerning the opening of an office in Athens.

PLO Conciliation Committee Meets Fatah Faction Head

LD141305 Kuwait KUNA in English 1154 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, Sep 14 (KUNA) — The Palestine Central Council's reconciliation committee mandated to find a solution to the dispute within the mainstream Palestinian Fatah movement has met with loyalist and opposition leaders in a further round of intensive contacts in the Syrian capital.

Fatah Central Committee member Yasir Amr [title and name as received] told KUNA Tuesday that the reconciliation team had received a "positive" opposition reply to proposals from the Fatah leadership pertaining to the four-month-old dispute.

He said the proposals dealt with the provisional council which the opposition has demanded to take over Fatah's financial, organizational, and military affairs pending the convening of an emergency general conference of the movement to discuss the opposition's damands.

Amr said the provisional council would not take the Central Committee's place, but that Central Committee members would not interfere with its proceedings and decisions, which would apply equally to both sides of the current dispute.

The reconciliation committee is scheduled to meet Wednesday with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

OPEC Experts Recommend Freezing Prices, Output
JN141343 Baghdad INA in English 1320 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Vienna, Sep 14, INA — Experts of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) forwarded a recommendation concerning freezing OPEC's current pricing structure and oil output ceiling, sources close to OPEC said here today.

The sources told INA correspondent that the experts who concluded here today a meeting had prepared a report on the oil situation which will be tabled before the ministerial follow-up committee meeting tomorrow. The report pointed out that the situation of the oil market is not encouragable at the time being. They said that the increase of demand on OPEC's oil is a seasonal matter which should not lead to the increase of the current ceiling output of 17.5 million b.p.d and the price of 29 U.S. dollars p.b.

The sources ruled out that an urgent session of OPEC's Ministerial Council is going to be held in the near future, whereas the council will debate during its ordinary meeting scheduled next December the follow-up committee's report.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Planning Steps Toward Economic Unity

GF150511 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 15-17 Sep 83 p 24

[Text] Abu Dhabi — Member-states of the Gulf Cooperation Council will shortly adopt positive steps towards coordination of oil, financial, and economic policies, according to a UAE Central Bank report released yesterday. Asserting that plans are under way to produce new legislations regulating commercial, customs, and industrial operations, the report said the move is part of a long-term plan for unified performance.

The broad objectives of the new strategy centre on avoiding duplicity in industrial projects so as to preserve the real resources of the region, in addition to the proper utilisation of domestic and foreign manpower. New, standardised procedure will also be adopted in fields of training, technical expertise, vocational training, and linking of the educational system with requirements of the development process, the report added. Furthermore, the GCC states will study the individual needs of each member in fields of land, marine, and air transport, as well as communications.

Other objectives of the new strategy include the re-organisation of the monetary systems in a bid to realise maximum utilisation of technical and investment expertise available in some member-states. Another major objective of the plan is to remove obstacles facing the issuance of a unified accounting unit to activate interstate commodity exchange.

A group of experts are currently studying a Gulf joint venture pipeline project to move surplus gas in the region to needing territories. Another project under way is the utilisation of oil tankers to supply fresh water to the region.

BAHRAIN

U.S. Military Intervention in Lebanon Denounced

GF141702 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 14 Sep 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Manama, 14 Sep (WAKH) — The Bahraini daily *Akhbar Al-Khalij affirmed that Washington's declaration to* use its planes for the bombardment of any location which attacks the Lebanese Army means that the United States does not represent an element of peace and reconciliation in Lebanon, but through that declaration propels the government to use a military solution, which will only cause further death and bloodshed and increase the hatred between the Lebanese factions.

In its editorial the paper stated that the changing of the forces' role in Lebanon from forces defending peace and stability to partiality forces is aimed at a speedy and organized escalation in order to impose a political formula which will deepen the disputes among the Lebanese sects and hinder the achievement of national reconciliation.

The paper stated that the termination of the U.S. role as a mediator in the Middle East crisis and its pledges that its Marines will maintain Lebanese security comes at time when Saudi Arabia is making honest efforts to protect Lebanon from the fire of the civil war and unite the conflicting forces in the country on the basis of an interim solution to satisfy all sides and protect their rights in their fatherland. At the conclusion of its editorial the daily called on the Arab League, which is the network that protects the interests of the great fatherland without partiality, to move fast to halt this dangerous military escalation by a big country which owns destruction means also possessed by Arab bodies and can destroy whatever interests are left for us in our fatherland.

KUWAIT

Finance and Planning Minister Resigns

LD141203 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] After reviewing Article 56 of the Constitution, the decree issued on 4 March 1981 on forming the cabinet, and the resignation submitted on 7 August 1983 by 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad, the minister of finance and planning, and according to the presentation of the prime minister, we have decreed the following:

Article 1: The resignation of 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad, minister of finance and planning, is to be accepted.

Article 2: The prime minister will implement this decree and inform the National Assembly. The decree comes into force as from its date of issue, and is to be published in the official press.

[Signed] Amir of Kuwait, Jabir al-Ahmad; Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah

[Issued] As-Sif Palace, 14 September 1983

Oil Minister Also Appointed Finance Minister

LD141206 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] After reviewing Article 56 of the Constitution, the decree issued on 4 March 1981 on forming the cabinet, and according to the presentation of the prime minister, we have decreed the following:

Article 1: 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi, the minister of oil, is to be appointed, in addition, to minister of finance.

Article 2: The prime minister will implement this decree and inform the National Assembly. The decree comes into force from its date of issue and is to be published in the official press.

[Signed] Amir of Kuwait Jabir al-Ahmad; Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah

[Issued] As-Sif Palace, 14 September 1983

Health Minister Also Appointed Planning Minister

LD141223 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] After reviewing Article 56 of the Constitution, the decree issued on 4 March 1981 for forming the cabinet, and according to the presentation of the prime minister, we have decreed the following:

Article 1: Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abdallah al-'Awadi, the minister of public health, is to be appointed, in addition, to minister of planning.

Article 2: The prime minister will implement this decree and inform the National Assembly. The decree comes into force from its date of issue and is to be published in the official press.

[Signed] Amir of Kuwait Jabir al-Ahmad; Prime Minister Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah

[Issued] As-Sif Palace, 14 September 1983

Saudi Ambassador Meets Kuwaiti Foreign Minister

LD122120 Riyadh SPA in English 1916 GMT 12 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait Sep 12, SPA — Saudi Ambassador to Kuwait Muhammad Fahd al-'Isa met here today with Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad. The talks between the two sides covered relations between the Kingdom and Kuwait, and current developments in the Arab region and Lebanese situation in particular. They also covered the Kingdom's efforts to spare bloodshed in Lebanon and to restore national entente.

SAUDI ARABIA

Finance Minister Affirms Economy Stability

GF140800 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl affirmed that the Saudi riyal is strong and the rise of some currencies against it does not mean that they affect it. He noted that businessmen and investors are able to deal with other low price currencies to get products, and demanded internal services to maintain our stable situation.

In a statement published by *Al-Bilad* today, he stated that the country's economic situation is strong and firm. He added that the firm measures taken by the Kingdom on various levels have enabled the country to avoid many negative results and relieve the state of inflation and stagnation. He stated that limiting governmental expenditure is not being done on a large scale and in the current budget there are no big reductions in the credits of the projetcs and other budgets of the past years.

UAE

Support Urged for Saudi Efforts on Lebanon

GF141616 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 14 Sep 83

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 14 Sep (WAM) — The UAE daily *Al-Fajr* called for support to Saudi efforts to achieve a solution to the deterioration of security in Lebanon, and called for the convention of an urgent meeting in Saudi Arabia between all Lebanese factions to decide the destiny of their country without previous conditions after all the current military fighting is halted.

The daily stated that the Lebanese leaders will be able to rescue their country via such a meeting and to reestablish it as an independent and free state practicing its role in Arab and international society as it should, that is, if they are aware of the size of the responsibility laid on their shoulders. It warned that if these leaders are swayed by sectarian and foreign tendencies, then the Lebanese people, along with other peoples, will know that they are not worthy to lead the country. The paper noted that such a meeting where all the Lebanese leaders will convene will foil the conspiracies hatched against their country.

At the conclusion of its editorial the daily called on the Lebanese leaders to assess the danger of the deteriorating situation and said: The present leadership is only issuing orders to open fire and fight to destroy, ruin, and kill innocent people. But the real leadership needs to protect the country from destruction, maintain its existence, protect all citizens, and prepare a secure life for them; it is a big responsibility which they should shoulder and prove to their people and all the peoples that they are actually leaders of people and not of gangs.

YAR

President 'Ali Meets Soviet Official

GF141830 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received in his office at the general leadership today Oleg Grinevskiy, chief of the Middle East Department at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, who delivered to the president a message from the Soviet leaders.

SABA' News Agency has learned that the message deals with bilateral relations, the means to develop them, and Arab and international affairs of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by Ahmad al-Iryani, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and Oleg Peresypkin, USSR ambassador in San'a'.

Cabinet Meeting Reviews Domestic, Foreign Issues

NC141536 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Statement by Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif following Cabinet meeting on 14 September — recorded]

[Excerpts] At the outset of the Cabinet meeting today, the prime minister reviewed the legislative program for next year so that the ministers can begin preparing the draft laws to be submitted to the Cabinet at its future sessions.

Following this, the Cabinet reviewed foreign policy and the external situation.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, reviewed the situation in Lebanon in light of the Israeli partial withdrawal to the Al-Awwali River, Israel's evacuation of the Ash-Shuf area, and the internal conflicts between the Phalangist and Druze militia. He then reviewed the results of the UN conference on the Palestinian problem.

The Cabinet also reviewed the Soviet downing of the Korean airliner. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister announced Egypt's stance on this question. He said that instructions were issued to our representative at the United Nations to participate in the Security Council's discussions on this issue. He affirmed that we regret the incident and are sorry for the victims, saying that this is a principled stand by Egypt on the question of international aviation safety. This, he said, coincides with our previous stands on the Libyan and Iraqi plane incidents — which were chartered from Middle East Airlines — and other incidents.

He added: We support the payment of compensation to the families of the victims and to the state that owned the airliner. The safety of international civil aviation is a basic issue in which there can be no leniency under any circumstances. Egypt hopes this incident will not restore the atmosphere of international tension.

The Cabinet then discussed the internal situation. Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha explained that there is positive stability in the internal situation as a result of several tangible factors, foremost of which is the people's clear awareness that the political leadership is scientifically confronting the problems.

The interior minister explained that there are attempts aimed at shaking internal stability. He spoke of suspect moves which aim at undermining the people's achievements and efforts. He said: These illegal attempts are connected with foreign states and they aim at shaking this stability. By their vigilance and watchfulness, the security organs always foil these attempts.

The interior minister explained that members of an extremist Palestinian organization, which has contacts and suspect relations with foreigners, have been detained. He said: This organization tried to bring weapons and explosives into Egypt. The organization's members have been detained; the weapons, explosives, and money for financing the operations and the contact code have been seized. This organization intended to carry out several terrorist operations and to liquidate Palestinians and foreigners in Egypt.

Communique on 13-14 September War Operations
JN141632 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,217 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 14 September 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The sons of our great people and valiant Army are continuing their inexhaustible offers and brave fighting against the forces of the criminal and suspect Khomeyniite enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our capable Air Force aircraft attacked the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield today, scoring direct and effective hits. Other formations of our daring fighter planes raided the enemy concentrations, weapon emplacements, and vehicles deep inside Iranian territory in the same sector. Our valiant pilots inflicted massive losses on the enemy targets that were hit, and fire could be seen raging in them. All of our raiding aircraft returned safely to base.

2. Our combat patrols opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our forward units' positions east of Basra, killing one and destroying one excavator, one hardware stockpile, and three personnel positions. Fresh groups of Iranian military men, fleeing Khomeyni's hell and the oppression of his rancorous clique, sought refuge with our forward units elsewhere of the same sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

3. Our forward units opened fire on some enemy troops opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing nine and wounding others.

4. One vehicle was destroyed and burned in the northern sector of the battlefield.

5. Today the criminal regime ruling in Iran shelled Basra and its suburbs with artillery, setting fire to some orchards.

[signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 September 1983

Assembly Speaker Confers With USSR Charge
JN141551 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad today received USSR Charge d'Affaires Anatoliy Chernikov, who gave him a copy of the resolution passed by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the international situation and the USSR's foreign policy.

The two sides reviewed existing relations between Iraq and the USSR, and expressed the two countries' desire to promote and consolidate these relations in the interest of the two friendly peoples and world peace. They also reviewed other issues of common interest in the service of world peace and security. A member of the National Assembly's Arab and Foreign Relations Committee attended the meeting.

Arab Monetary Fund Approves $85 Million Loan
LD131457 Vienna OPECNA in English 1020 GMT 13 Sep 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Sept. 83 (OPECNA) — The Arab Monetary Fund Monday approved an 85 million dollar loan to Iraq to help shore up its budget deficit caused by a fall in exports. The loan, to be repaid within three years at an interest rate ranging from 5.3 to 5.8 percent, carries an 18-month grace period.

AR-RA'Y Eyes U.S. Activities in Lebanon

JN140935 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Role That Reaches Beyond Lebanon," *Ar-Ra'y* says: We have always reproached the Phalangist Party's insistence on imposing its own legitimacy in its own way on the Lebanese people and territory. The seriousness of such a decision does not only affect the interests of a large sector of the Lebanese people, but it is a frank and premeditated aggression against the Lebanese legitimacy, its rights, and its duties to establish mutual relations of confidence and assurance among all the Lebanese parties. It seems now that Washington deliberately plans to play a role that reaches beyond Lebanon and which is worse and more serious than the Phalangist role. If the Phalangist Party has allowed Israel to play havoc with Lebanon, occupy it, destroy it, and commit massacres in it, then the U.S. statements circulated by news agencies yesterday constitute a decision by the administration in Washington to allow the Marines, along with the U.S. guns and planes, to play havoc with Lebanon without having to get prior approval from Washington for any military action against the Lebanese people and territory.

Ar-Ra'y adds: The statements that were made by the White House are unprecedented in international relations. No superpower has behaved in such a way. Even if this has happened in the past, it was not presented to the world in such an overt manner, a manner which is denounced.

The multinational forces have come to Lebanon under the pretext of maintaining stability and security and protecting the lives and possessions of the Lebanese people, but the overt insistence on reaping havoc on this country by the U.S. military without having to get Washington's political approval automatically cancels the task of the multinational force. This will not lead to peace in Lebanon or a national accord among the Lebanese citizens. Neither does it help the Lebanese to get out of the trenches to put an end to the fighting whose sacrifices exceed all bounds.

Ar-Ra'y concludes: If Britain and France followed this U.S. behavior and allowed their forces on the high seas and in the bases that are close to Lebanon to act freely there, to shell it, to kill its citizens, and to destroy its cities and villages, the world would enter a new stage which would make us wonder about the importance and value of the democracy that the United States and the West European states talk about, a democracy which states that the political decision must dictate the military one and not vice versa. opposite. This is, of course, if we agree that the Lebanese people or any other people, whether European or American, belong to this human community whose dignity, rights, and role in the march of mankind we are concerned about.

Reportage on Visit by UK Minister Richard Luce

Meets Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan, Salim

NC141224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Today, President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and Foreign Minister Salim met with British Minister of State Richard Luce and the delegation accompanying him. They reviewed the real situation to which Lebanon is exposed and the role of the British contingent of the multinational force. From the Republican Palace we have on the line colleague Joe Sa'adah to report on the meeting.

[Begin Sa'adah recording] British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sir Richard Luce began his official talks in Lebanon today. President al-Jumayyil received at noon today Richard Luce who was accompanied by the official in charge of Lebanese and Middle East affairs at the Foreign Office and British charge d'affaires in Beirut Richard Palmer. Before meeting with President al-Jumayyil, Luce met with Prime Minister al-Wazzan and before that with Foreign Minister Salim.

So far we have no official information about the meeting. However, these talks are being held within the framework of exploring what is taking place and of exploring the means for increasing British support for Lebanon.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Salim met with U.S. Ambassador in Beirut Robert Dillon within the framework of following up the U.S. contacts and efforts. U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane is expected to meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus this afternoon. [end recording]

Affirms Commitment to Lebanon

NC141808 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Lebanese officials today explained the reality of what is happening in Lebanon to British Minister of State in the Foreign Office Richard Luce. Luce met with President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and Foreign Minister Salim. During the meeting the British minister emphasized his country's firm, strong, and continuing commitment to support Lebanon and its legitimate authority, and to act in the international domain — especially within the European community — by using every pressure to have all non-Lebanese and illegal forces leave Lebanese territories.

It has been reported that the requests Lebanon has made to the British envoy are summed up in the following three points:

1. That the world understand the reality of what is happening on the Lebanese arena as not being an internal conflict or a civil war but a flagrant foreign interference in Lebanon's internal affairs.

2. To help Lebanon to preserve its sovereignty, independence, and unity.

3. That the decisionmaking states at the Security Council and the friendly states cooperate in helping Lebanon to oust all foreign forces from its territory.

Spokesman on Luce Visit

LD141906 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1803 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Foreign Office minister Mr Richard Luce met Lebanon's President al-Jummayyil for an hour in the battle-torn capital of Beirut today.

Mr Luce was later flying home after his two-day visit to the area to review the threat to British troops in the multi-national peace-keeping force.

He met U.S. special envoy Mr Robert McFarlane for an hour before visiting the 97-strong British contingent.

British military spokesman Major Christopher le Hardy, of the 13/18th Royal Hussars, said Mr Luce told them he was "continually concerned" about their safety.

"His comments underlined," but did not add to, his statements before he flew out here.

"The visit was trouble-free, and in fact it has been very quiet here today so he was in no danger.

"There was some shooting but nothing came down close to us." Major le Hardy denied that the Chinook helicopters recently sent to reinforce the RAF base in Cyprus had only "a logistic" role to play for the British force in Lebanon.

"When the airport was closed because of the continuous shelling we missed our regular Hercules re-supplying run," he explained.

"The Chinooks supply us with frozen and tinned food and spare parts for our vehicle. They are purely for logistic resupplying and not an emergency role."

It had been suggested that the Chinooks had been brought in to act as a possible evacuation back-up.

A clear statement on Britain's approach to the growing Lebanon crisis is expected to follow shortly after Mr Luce's return to London.

The Foreign Office today acknowledged that the size of the British contingent had been discussed "in general terms" by the multi-national force co-ordinating committee.

But there had been no formal request from the Lebanese Government for an increase in the British contingents, said a spokesman.

Britain had made clear on many occasions that because of commitments elsewhere, she could not offer more troops.

The spokesman also said the deployment of the multi-national force in support of the Lebanese Government -- including in the

Ash-Shuf mountains, had also been discussed by the co-ordinating committee.

The Foreign Office declined to comment on the increased American involvement in the conflict following President Reagan's decision to give his commanders in the area direct authority to hit back at threats to the American peacekeeping force.

It now seems clear that the growing scale of Western involvement, including the six British Buccanner aircraft, is intended as a major show of strength.

Mr Luce will report to the prime minister and foreign secretary on whether this is likely to have the desired effect in reducing of the fighting.

A continuing conflict with no sign of ceasefire would put pressure on Mrs Thatcher and her ministers to increase the size of the British contingent -- a move that would be strongly resisted in Whitehall.

Government Turns Down Syrian Condition
NC141506 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Following the Cabinet session today, Cabinet sources said that the Lebanese Government reiterated its commitment to the Lebanese principles, as repeatedly announced by the government, particularly the right of the Army to deploy on all the Lebanese territory. The Cabinet, according to the sources, reviewed the latest contacts that the Lebanese officials have had with [Saudi] Prince Bandar on his talks with the Syrian officials. It has been learned that the Syrians still insist that the Army be withdrawn from the mountain before a cease-fire agreement is reached. The sources added that the government has categorically turned down this condition.

McFarlane Returns to Beirut From Damascus
NC142133 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane returned to Beirut from Damascus tonight after a short visit during which he met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi Envoy Prince Bandar. The U.S. envoy is expected to present the results of his talks in the Syrian capital to the Lebanese officials later.

Al-Jumayyil Notified of U.S.-Syrian Talks
NC150638 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Efforts are being made at various levels to put an end to the tragedies taking place in Lebanon and to find a radical solution to the Lebanese question according to the firm principles which the regime declared to consolidate Lebanon's sovereignty and safeguard the security of the homeland and the citizens. Lebanon is receiving increasing international and Arab support. Saudi officials are expected to inform the Lebanese side of the results of their mediation. U.S. presidential envoy McFarlane last night briefed the Lebanese officials on the outcome of his talks in Damascus.

President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil chaired a meeting in the Republican Palace attended by McFarlane, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Presidential Adviser for National Affairs Dr Wadi' Haddad, and U.S. Ambassador Robert Dillon. The meeting ended at 0055.

McFarlane briefed President Al-Jumayyil on the outcome of his talks with Syrian officials, particularly with respect to clarifying the U.S. stance regarding support for the Lebanese regime.

It has been learned that the Syrian officials are still considering the Saudi proposals. Saudi officials are expected soon to notify the Lebanese side of the results of their efforts.

Beirut Reports on Damascus Mediation Talks
NC151036 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan this morning met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in a final effort to agree on a solution with Damascus that will meet Lebanon's territorial integrity requirements and will not subsequently constitute interference in its domestic affairs.

Prince Bandar met earlier with Walid Junblatt, Marwan Hamadah, and Khalid Junblatt in the presence of Rafiq al-Hariri.

U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane is waiting in Beirut for the results of the Saudi mediation. His assistant Richard Fairbanks will leave for Israel today to meet with foreign and defense ministers Shamir and Arens.

Speaker Al-As'ad Chairs Independent Bloc Meeting
NC141340 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Kamil al-As'ad, the speaker of the chamber of deputies, chaired a meeting of the independent National Bloc at Mansur Palace at 1145 today.

After the meeting, Speaker al-As'ad said that the discussions centered on the tragic situation. He added that on the political level, the ghost of partition looms because of this situation. He pointed out that the bloc has decided to resume its discussions on Monday when certain matters will become clear. He expressed fear over a cease-fire without an agreement on a concept, which would mean the consolidation of the faits accompli with or without international forces.

Regarding the return of the Israeli army to Iqlim al-Kharrub, Al-As'ad said: Why did the Israeli army leave the area and why is it returning to it now? At any rate, the Israeli plan became clear on the first day of Israel's entry [into Lebanon]. This plan

aims at exploiting all positive and negative situations to liquidate Lebanon.

Camille Sham'un Says U.S. Stand 'Positive'

NC141310 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The Lebanese Front held its weekly meeting under former President Camille Sham'un and in the presence of its members.

At the outset of the meeting, the conferees observed a 1-minute silence in mourning of martyr President Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil.

After the meeting, Sham'un made a statement in which he said that the Lebanese Front has reviewed the events that took place in the last 10 days and the foreign interference that is taking place. The front decided to issue an official statement in the next few days.

He added that the front, which has followed with interest the progress of the battles which were imposed on Lebanon, praises the outstanding courage of the Lebanese Army and expresses its appreciation of the spirit of sacrifice shown by the Lebanese Forces.

Answering a question about the U.S. decision, Sham'un said that this stand can be considered a positive one in the interest of Lebanon.

Cabinet Waiting for 'New' Saudi Plan

NC151242 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1228 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] The Cabinet meeting ended at 1410 and no statement was issued. Information Minister Shaykhani said that the Cabinet is expected to be informed of a new plan which the Saudi mediation has reached so that the Cabinet may discuss and express its views on it.

Answering a question, Minister Shaykhani said that the text of the plan is expected to arrive before this evening and that if necessary the Cabinet will hold another session tonight.

Foreign Minister Grants Interview to ABC Television

NC141414 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Telephone dispatch by radio correspondent Joe Sa'adah from Presidential Palace — recorded]

[Text] In an interview given to the American television network ABC by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim today, Minister Salim said that Lebanon does not want the United States or any of the states participating in the multinational force to be militarily involved in Lebanon. However, Lebanon stresses the need for U.S. political and military support for Lebanon and its Army, especially because the Lebanese Army is facing a foreign aggression. Minister Salim emphasized that the Army can overcome all internal problems but it requires help, especially U.S. help, to confront the foreign aggression.

Minister Salim expressed his belief that the order given for defending the Marines on land, in the air, and at sea affords strong support for the Marines, the multinational force, and Lebanon. Minister Salim also expressed the hope that the initiations of the fraternal and friendly states will be able to make Syria facilitate the task of the Lebanese Government. Minister Salim denied that the war in Lebanon is a civil one, saying that the Lebanese Government is facing a flagrant foreign intervention that is led by forces that do not wish Lebanon to regain its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity.

Minister Salim said that the Soviets are annoyed because the United States and the Western states alone are resolving the Lebanese issue. He expressed his belief that the United States is now proceeding along the right path and that there is a change in the U.S. tone. The months of waiting following the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement have exposed Lebanon. The United States has realized the consequences of delaying the solution of the Lebanese issue and has altered its tone in addressing the other parties.

Salim Lebanese Television Interview

NC142050 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1913 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Interview with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim by unidentified Lebanese television correspondent — live in studio]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Your Excellency: We want an open dialogue. We want an informal heart-to-heart talk. There is much talk today about the Saudi initiative. The Saudi initiative, as we hear, is oscillating. Sometimes there is optimism, sometimes the Saudi Cabinet suspends the initiative, and sometimes the Cabinet gives an impetus to the initiative. Where has the Saudi initiative reached? Is it heading toward success? We want you to review the stages of this initiative. What were the obstacles that blocked the way of the so-called Saudi paper that was presented to the parties concerned?

[Salim] The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has participated with us in a serious manner to find a solution to the Lebanese problem. During the intensive meetings that were held between [Saudi] Prince Bandar and His Excellency President al-Asad, a 4-point agreement was reached on paper:

1. The achievement of a cease-fire.

2. The deployment of the Army in a just and evenhanded manner.

3. The deployment of the Army in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh after holding talks with the persons or sides concerned with the support of international forces.

4. The immediate start of the dialogue with the sides and persons mentioned by his excellency the president in his open message.

Prince Bandar brought over these points and we immediately accepted them. We told Prince Bandar that we accept these points. Prince Bandar returned to Damascus at a time when Bhamdun fell to the hands of the Socialist and other forces. When Prince Bandar arrived in Damascus they [Syrians] changed their minds with regard to a very important point — the deployment of the Army in Ash-Shuf. Syria introduced a new provision to the effect that the Lebanese Army shall not be used in domestic problems and in Lebanese domestic disputes, and that the Army must withdraw from Ash-Shuf. We regarded the provision as unacceptable to Lebanon because there is no country in the world that would accept its Army to be used only to curb terrorist acts locally or to end chaos. All world armies are usually used when the Internal Security Forces exhaust all their capabilities. We, in Lebanon, have 6,000 Internal Security Forces' personnel and during the Zahlah issue we hardly collected 90 gendermarie to send to Zahlah. Therefore, the Syrian proposal to deploy the Internal Security Forces in the Ash-Shuf area where there is now acute infighting is unreasonable because it is impossible. Also, we will not accept anything that harms Lebanese sovereignty and the freedom of Lebanese movement.

Thus, the existing problem between Lebanon and Syria is over the second point. It is Lebanon's right to use the Lebanese Army when need arises in any town or in any domestic case. We, in Lebanon, must have the same right as is enjoyed by Syria, Saudi Arabia, and every Arab state. We want to be frank from the beginning. We will either be an Arab state like the other states or not a state. We are compelled to adopt prinipled stands: We will either be free to use our Army and make decisions like any other Arab state or we will be a secondary divided state always subject to foreign intervention. The government is not prepared to be subject to any pressures, either from the north, south, east or west. We want to be an independent and sovereign state. This provision runs completely counter to reality.

The Saudi Kingdom understands this stand and Prince Bandar is now in Damascus for the sake of discussing this point. We expect an understanding on the part of Damascus of the Arab-backed Lebanese stand, and we hope, if there is Syrian approval of this point, to reach a cease-fire.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, the minister. There has been talk about an alternative to the 4-point agreement. The talk is about a 7-item agreement. It is reported that this agreement was prepared as a result of the Saudi-Syrian understanding, but that it has been rejected by the Lebanese side.

[Salim] This is not true.

[Reporter] It is no longer a secret, Your Excellency the minister, that negotiations are taking place between Lebanon and Syria. This is evident from your talk and from the facts on the ground. Could we know precisely what Syria wants from Lebanon and what Lebanon demands from Syria? Are there no common denominators that could safeguard the interests of both countries?

[Salim] This is indeed a large and important question. Let us be very frank from the beginning about the options available to Lebanon. Some people come and tell us: It is perhaps the best thing that you reach an agreement with Israel, which would take care of everything else. If you do not go along with Israel, you will destroy Lebanon. We know that if we heed this advice and go along with Israel, Syria would not possibly leave Lebanon and it would consider this action as a blatant aggression against Lebanon or as the submission of a certain Lebanese faction to the interests of Israel. Syria would insist on staying in Lebanon. If we completely go along with the Syrian policy and enter into a violent confrontation with Israel — we are not prepared militarily or ideologically for such a confrontation — and land completely in the Syria camp vis-a-vis Israel — if we follow this option, Israel would, naturally, not withdraw from the Al-Litani and the south. It would annex the south as it annexed the West Bank, Gaza, and other areas in Palestine.

Faced with these two options, we considered it more appropriate for Lebanon that we should accept a third option — the U.S. initiative. The U.S. initiative tells us: I assure you that the non-Lebanese forces will withdraw from Lebanon. We support Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and freedom. When this is ensured, the U.S. and all the multinational forces will immediately withdraw. Faced with the first two difficult options, we chose the U.S. option. The U.S. option might be slow going and it might be complicated because of the international conditions; however, the U.S. option is the best one available to us.

We are very much interested in making it clear that Lebanon is an Arab country. Lebanon is an indivisible part of the Arab world and we are a member of the Arab League. Our interests in the Arab world are vital interests. Therefore, we can do nothing in our foreign policy or in the structure of the regime in Lebanon which could be detrimental to the interests of Syria. Thus, in all our negotiations with Israel, we made certain that everything we do will safeguard Syria's interests because we care for Syria's interests as much as we care for Lebanon's interests. Therefore, we entered the negotiations with Israel unhesitantly. We concluded an agreement with Israel on the basis that the United States guarantees this agreement. We hope that Syria will cooperate with Lebanon and withdraw its Army from Lebanon. It would then be easy to set a timetable for the Israeli army's total withdrawal from Lebanon.

Naturally, after 8 years of presence in Lebanon, Syria has political interests, economic interests, and security interests. At the appropriate time and when it starts a dialogue with Syria, Lebanon is prepared to discuss all these points. It is also prepared, within Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, to ensure for Syria its security interests especially. We are prepared to go a long way with Syria to assure it that Lebanon cannot possibly do anything that can affect Syria's major interests, especially Syria's national interests, in the near or distant future. This is because Lebanon too has national aspirations; it has its stands regarding the area as a whole; it has its positions with regard to the important Middle East issues. Lebanon will always continue to have a pioneering role in this regard.

[Reporter] Without going into or reverting to the details of the 17 May [Lebanese-Israeli] agreement, you said that Lebanon is prepared to discuss with Syria all the security, economic, and political interests. I wonder, is the Lebanese Government prepared to discuss even the 17 May agreement — to reconsider this

agreement because Syria regards it as constituting a threat to its security and, consequently, a threat to Arab security? To what extent will Lebanon reconsider this agreement, especially since the Israeli partial withdrawal was a flagrant violation of the agreement?

[Salim] The agreement guarantees Israel's complete withdrawal from Lebanon. They are telling us to go to the United Nations because just as the United Nations made Israel withdraw in 1978, it will make Israel withdraw now in 1983. Let us make you understand that Israel did not leave Lebanon in 1978. Israel carried out a small operation and then returned and established a border strip. It is possible for Israel to withdraw without the agreement, but without the agreement, you will have either ministates, armies that are subject to Israel, or zones of influence for Israel from the Al-Litani River southward. If we want to ensure Israel's complete withdrawal from Lebanon, we have nothing other than the agreement. I say to whomever tells me to go to the United Nations that Israel did not withdraw in 1978. Up till now the Palestinians have 95 resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly and the Security Council, but none of these resolutions has been implemented. Therefore, I do not want to risk my country. If others wish to risk theirs, may God grant them success. From my position of responsibility, I do not want to put my country at risk. I have a decision [the agreement] which guarantees Israel's complete departure from Lebanon.

If any Arab summit conference or any Arab leader can assure Lebanon that it or he has an alternative or another agreement or a stand that will ensure Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, we will be prepared to tear up the 17 May agreement. The 17 May agreement is a means to liberate Lebanon from Israel. Nobody should talk to Lebanon about this subject unless he brings something better. To whomever speaks to me about [UN Security Council] Resolution 509 I will tell him you have 95 resolutions concerning the Palestinian issue, go and implement them. To whomever tells me about 1978, I will tell him that in 1978 Israel did not withdraw despite the fact that it was only a limited operation. This is a war — the biggest war Israel has entered. I would like to know how the Arab countries are going to liberate themselves. How do they believe Israel will get out of the Golan? By a simple resolution? For a simple disengagement involving a distance of 500 meters in 1973, Syria was compelled to make agreements with Israel and to hold negotiations with Kissinger which required 33 meetings and for only a 500 meters disengagement. We are liberating a homeland. For the first time, we are liberating a homeland from an Israeli invasion. If others want to fight with words, we are not prepared to do so because we are the ones who are getting the beating and it is our country which is subjected [to aggression]. If anyone has something better to offer than the 17 May agreement, we will be prepared to tear up this agreement now.

[Reporter] Your Excellency the minister: Let us continue with the question of the withdrawals. The fact is that the U.S. interest in the Lebanese question is growing steadily. The last time I was at United Nations, President Reagan decided to send one of the persons closest to him — McFarlane — to the Middle East to speed up the withdrawals process. It is regrettable that all the U.S. activities are now directed toward the achievement of a cease-fire. It appears that we have forgotten the withdrawals question, which is the essence of the problem and which must be fundamentally tackled. I do not know if while seeking a cease-fire and the settlement of the situation in the mountain area, efforts are also directed toward ridding Lebanon of the real problem from which it is suffering.

[Salim] Indeed, we have reached a stage compelling us to give all the facts to the Lebanese people. The Lebanese situation is very serious. There are several maps for future Lebanon. Several states have specific aims in Lebanon. There are several maps which say that Lebanon will be so and so, that Lebanon will be divided so and Lebanon will be partitioned so. Sometimes, we, the Lebanese, unwittingly serve as a means for the implementation of these external aims. Our hope now is pinned on the United States and the states concerned with the multinational force which are committed with us to unify and liberate all Lebanon and to restore Lebanon to its democratic and free character, which is unique in this area.

It is very important that we should always bear in mind the main goal — the liberation of Lebanon. We do not want to be occupied in the liberation of Ash-Shuf, Sidon, Tyre or this area or that area only. After this long period of occupations and massacres, and their effect on the Lebanese people, we do not have much room to procrastinate and prevaricate. The main goal is to liberate all of Lebanon from all non-Lebanese forces as soon as possible. Anyone who considers himself to be a friend of Lebanon will support it now. This is not the time for outbiddings on Lebanon. This is not the time to waste on peripheral and internal issues — where sould the Lebanese Army be deployed and where sould the gendarmerie and the police go. The government shoulders a fateful responsibility in the history of Lebanon. This responsibility is the restoration of unity and normal life to Lebanon.

This is not the time for the defamation of the government or the people. This is the time for us to stand united and liberate Lebanon. After liberating Lebanon, we can sit together as one Lebanese family to agree on how freedom will be established. We want personal freedom as well as group, institution, and party freedoms. Lebanon is a unique country and freedom is its basis. When we liberate ourselves from this foreign yoke, we will be able to talk quietly to each other on how to rearrange the Lebanese house. This house has been destroyed and ruined after 8 or even 10 years of conflicts and foreign wars, which were fought on our land in our name and with us at times and against us at other times.

[Reporter] Your Excellency the minister. You said that the United States and the states participating in the multinational force are committed to the unification and liberation of Lebanon and to the restoration of its full sovereignty. However, you admitted at the same time that the progress is slow. This slow progress is creating continuous problems. Instead of tackling the withdrawals problem, as we have just said, we are now dealing with the question of a cease-fire. We are now tackling the problem: Will the Army enter Suq al-Gharb or will it leave Suq al-Gharb? In other words, the longer a solution is delayed, the more peripheral problems are created. These problems are confusing the government and restricting its actions.

[Salim] This is true. However, there is some link between the small and big things. For example, it is necessary to ensure that anything which must be done now or in the future in any area in Lebanon will not ultimately separate an entire area of Lebanon from Beirut or from the regime in Lebanon. There could be possible movements in Ash-Shuf. Judging by daily developments, there is apprehension that the south, which is being exposed to the Israeli pressure and normalization, might separate entirely from Beirut. Therefore, we are very eager to keep Beirut connected, through its Army, information and administration, with all areas in Lebanon. We are eager to see the Lebanese Army enter into all areas in Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh.

If there are people who are still apprehensive about the Army, then let there be international forces; let there be international observers. However, it is very important to me that during this phase we lay emphasis on the Army and regard it as the Army of all Lebanon. The Army has taken heroic stands. It has made sacrifices. The martyrs hailed from all the Lebanese families. Nobody can say that one community sustained more dead than another community. This is the first time the Lebanese Army fought. It fought valiantly. What did it fight for? It fought in defense of the homeland — of Lebanon, of Lebanon of the future. Every challenge to the government and to the government's effective instrument — the Army — is a challenge to Lebanon during this phase. Some phases might come in the future during which the issues will not be so serious and during which it will be possible to give and take with regard to this point.

Since 1969, there has been a sort of intentional campaign against the Lebanese Army. Since 1969, the Army has been accused of many things. Problems arose in 1973, 1975, and 1976. The Lebanese community tried the militia; it tried the special armies. All these failed and fell like autumn leaves. Only Lebanon's Army remained. All the world now realizes that nobody can protect you other than the Lebanese state; no army other than the Lebanese Army can protect you. There is no community which can say that it can be protected only by its own militia. All this has collapsed. Nobody other than the Lebanese Army can protect the Lebanese. This Army is the Army of all of Lebanon; it is a tenacious Army which engaged in battles without any internal problem arising. Because the Army is internally cohesive, this is the best proof to the world that all the Lebanese community is cohesive internally and that there is unanimous support for the government.

Casting doubt on the government, on his excellency the president, on his excellency the prime minister, and on the Chamber of Deputies, is understood, but such casting of doubt should not come from any Lebanese or from any area in Lebanon because we know how his excellency the president has been elected. We know how the constitutional institutions in Lebanon function. We openly ask any regime — not only in the Arab world but in the whole Middle East — that has more unanimous public support than the Lebanese president to let us know about it and about the methods by which those presidents, leaders, and others were elected. What I mean to say to whomever wishes to throw a rose at us, is that we would like to know what kind of rose it is.

Therefore, with our due love and respect for everybody, we have no doubt at all in our legitimacy, in our ability, in our right, and in our steadfastness. We know that we are marching along the right national, pan-Arab Lebanese course, and therefore we fear nobody.

[Reporter] Mr Minister. We return to the Saudi initiative, the Saudi mediation, and the U.S. move. As we have understood, these flow in one channel — to ensure the withdrawal of the foreign armies from Lebanon and consequently to unite the country. Is there a coordination between the U.S. efforts that are being exerted and the Saudi mediation?

[Salim] The Saudi mediation is an independent Arab mediation. The aim of Saudi Arabia is always conciliatory in all the issues of the Arab world. Therefore, we consider this initiative an important one. Its aim is to reconcile the government in Lebanon and the government in Syria so that the natural dialogue will begin — a dialogue we are yearning to enter into with Syria in order to resolve all our problems with Syria. We are yearning without preconditions to enter into a broad and deep dialogue with Syria on all the points that Syria wishes to put forward.

As for the U.S. initiative, it is an independent initiative. The United States, France, Britain, and Italy are committed with us in supporting the government in Lebanon and in supporting the government in a practical and actual manner so that this government will be able to regain its natural right, namely, the establishment of the state's sovereignty over every inch of Lebanese territory. Therefore, the U.S. initiative is a political support for the government.

Naturally, it is no secret that the United States supports the Lebanese Army with equipment and that we pay the price of this equipment. It is no secret that Britain, France, Italy, and the United States participate with us in training the Lebanese Army which is now capable of becoming the suitable nucleus for maintaining security and stability in all Lebanon provided that the friends and Arab brothers help us in achieving the main goals of the regime in Lebanon.

Therefore, the U.S. initiative needs Arab backing. The U.S. initiative does not mean that the United States will send 100,000 soldiers to liberate Lebanon militarily. The United States supports the regime and the Army, and it cooperates with us diplomatically and politically to untie some of the knots, which are, most regrettably, connected with the Lebanese question. For example, Syria has many problems other than its problems in Lebanon. The United States must discuss some of the knots with Syria in order for the dialogue between the United States and Syria to become clear, frank and [word indistinct], and useful in the realization of the goals of the regime in Lebanon.

[Reporter] If the problems continue, will the multinational force states, headed by the United States, move from the limits of moral and political support? Will they move from lip service to Lebanon to what we do not perhaps want to describe as a military interference, but a hint at military pressure to resolve these problems that might threaten the fate of Lebanon and consequently might ignite a war in the area?

[Salim] Lebanon is a member-state of the Arab League. The last thing Lebanon wants is that the United States or France should

come and use force in Lebanon against an Arab state in order to realize the goals of the regime in Lebanon. However, Lebanon has national and fateful aims. Lebanon's existence is at stake now. We need a tangible U.S. military aid to strengthen the Lebanese Army and the regime. Syria has a treaty with the Soviet Union which supplies it with arms. There is a friendship treaty between them. We have no treaty with the United States. However, we depend on the United States to help the regime impose its sovereignty on all Lebanon. We hope that the U.S. mediation, particularly with Syria, will be a political and diplomatic mediation ensuring the Syrian Army's withdrawal and reassuring Syria against any possible fears of the results of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement or of any other Israeli stand on Lebanon.

Our future with Syria is historical and endless. Therefore, it is not in our interests to antagonize Syria. It is also not in our interests that we should stand with any foreign state against Syria. We do not want such a thing. We prefer that I should be able to go to Damascus tomorrow to negotiate with them [the Syrians] on truly joint interests, which have a connection with the fate of the entire Arab world rather than have the United States mediate for us. However, the international situation and the situation in the area requires this type of dialogue now. We hope that it will not be long before Lebanon will be able to directly discuss with Syria all the pending problems between us.

[Reporter] Your Excellency: Recently you resorted to the United Nations and the Security Council, calling on the international legality to assist us in the cease-fire process and consequently to implement Resolution 520 and other resolutions which would safeguard Lebanon's interest. Expeience has taught us that resorting to the United Nations or to the Security Council is futile and that resolutions, as you previously said, remain ink on paper. My question: Why do you insist on resorting to such international bodies despite your prior knowledge that the resolutions will not be implemented, and that there should be effective power to translate the resolutions into reality?

[Salim] The UN Security Council resolutions are important, but not sufficient. The whole world is now talking about the Lebanese problem. All world papers are writing about Lebanon, Lebanon's problems, the war in Lebanon, the massacres, and tragedies in Lebanon. But still we have to go to the biggest international council to explain the Lebanese issue as it is now so that the world will listen to our viewpoint. We are not asking anything from the Security Council. All we are asking it is to adopt a resolution for observing a cease-fire and to send UN observers to the area, specifically in areas of disputes, so that Lebanon can heal the wounds and so that the one Lebanese family can discuss the ways of organizing our affairs during the next stage. We believe that the most pressing matter for Lebanon is the cease-fire so that the people can catch their breath and so that we can discuss the affairs that concern us.

The people hold the view that had we taken a step other than the one we have taken, we would have avoided all these tragedies and massacres. I want to be frank with the Lebanese people and say that the massacres and tragedies that are currently taking place are bitter and painful for every Lebanese. These massacres and tragedies will remain with us forever; however, every other option is difficult and involves massacres and tragedies. There are options that can involve massacres, but are aimless. These are options that can involve some massacres, but have a specific objective. All the options that are open to Lebanon now are very difficult. Therefore, we must endure some tragedies provided that the tragedies which we are enduring now — 1,000 martyrs, 2,000 martyrs, evacuees — can ensure Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty and can be the spring out of which new Lebanon will be borne.

[Reporter] What is the latest information from the UN Security Council? We have already learned that the Soviet Union or some other states might express reservations or exercise the right of veto with regard to the dispatch of UN observers to the mountain area?

[Salim] Actually, we asked the UN Security Council to work out a cease-fire, to confirm Resolution 520 which supports Lebanon's call for the withdrawal of all the non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon and to send UN observers to observe the cease-fire on the ground. We hope that all the states will support this just demand — this just Lebanese demand — and 2 or 3 hours from now we will know the results of the Security Council's meeting.

[Reporter] What would happen if the Security Council should fail to adopt a resolution?

[Salim] If the Security Council fails to adopt a resolution, there is still the ongoing Saudi mediation. We hope to reach a cease-fire through the Saudi mediation.

[Reporter] Your Excellency: We know that his excellency the president lately called for holding a conference on national dialogue. His excellency the president has even named the leaders who will, during the first phase at least, attend the conference, and has consequently defined the three principles of this dialogue: Lebanon's unity, Lebanon's sovereignty, and Lebanonizing security. Where has this call reached and will it be changed due to the current circumstances?

I believe that the president has on three or four occasions called for holding a dialogue and more than once he invited the Lebanese leaders, both the opponent and proponent, to attend intensive meetings at the Presidential Palace or in any other government department to discuss the fateful Lebanese issues. The government is open to a dialogue. The president is ready for the dialogue when the parties concerned are present. There are many kinds of dialogue. He can first meet with a certain team, then with another team, and then he can meet with the two teams. The president can flexibly meet with the group collectively and then he can expand the discussion to include other Lebanese figures because the fateful Lebanese issues dictate not only holding negotiations with 10 or 11 leaders but also with other Lebanese figures. The government is completely open to the dialogue and also open to a dialogue with Syria concerning all issues, particularly the difficult issues that Syria wants to discuss with Lebanon. If there is any problem over the start of the dialogue, it is certainly not caused by us.

[Reporter] Your Excellency: At the end of our talk, it has become evident that the issue is no longer a domestic issue and

that the struggle is no longer confined to Lebanese sides, but is a struggle in which regional and international factors interfere. Those who are interfering in th crisis have conflicting interests. As you said, there is a plan to fragment Lebanon. I would simply like to ask: Are the current events a prelude for the fragmentation plan, and if so, are we able, with all our potential, to defeat this plot, or will we stand and say that we have no power?

[Salim] It has been definite from the beginning that the ongoing war in Lebanon is not a civil war. You can call it an internal war as termed in political science. In other words, foreign sides are fighting on your land using some members of your people and sometimes some of your leaders. Therefore, the Lebanese war is an internal war reflecting the struggles in the area. It is a war raging in Lebanon, or it is the war of others in Lebanon. It is the war of the region as a whole. It is a war of an international nature. All the international struggles [ihtiqan] and the struggle in the Middle East are now aggravating in Lebanon in the form of war. Therefore, the existing struggle in Lebanon is one requiring an efficient and somewhat enduring diplomacy which is capable of solving the Israeli knot, the Syrian problem, the other Arab problems, and the Palestinian problem which has for a long time been submersed [inghamsat] into the Lebanese issue. In solving all these issues, Lebanon needs the assistance of the Arab states and the big powers. It is therefore essential for Lebanon to have at least one superpower on its side. We have to have either the Soviet Union or the United States, otehrwise, there is no hope of getting rid of the octopus. For many reasons and due to the situation in Lebanon and the situation in the region, we accepted a U.S. initiative. The aim of this initiative is to achieve our own objectives — Lebanon's sovereignty, Lebanon's freedom, and Lebanon's independence. We, therefore, expect much aid from the United States and the multinational force. We have every confidence that these states will manage to liberate Lebanon soon — and not in a matter of years — because the international situation, the situation in the region, and the internal situation cannot endure further tragedies in Lebanon or further political struggles in the Middle East.

[Reporter] A last word, Your Excellency: It is now urgent for the citizens to know if we are about to make a cease-fire decision and will this decision be observed?

[Salim] The Lebanese people have the right to be scared of the cease-fire because there have been so many cease-fire decisions during the 8-year old war in Lebanon. We have a great hope that the international support to Lebanon will lead to cease-fire and will gradually lead to spreading the state's sovereignty over every inch of Lebanese territory.

We ask the Lebanese people, who have been waiting for 8 years, to hold, endure, and stand fast because the battle is now a fateful one — whether to be or not to be. There are several forces that are against Lebanon's existence. We are obliged, every Lebanese is obliged, to support the government in faith and confidence. Despite all the tragedies, our only option is to triumph.

[Reporter] Thank you, Your Excellency.

Junblatt Interviewed on Current Situation

Druze Goals Outlined

PM141548 Paris Liberation in French 10-11 Sep 83 pp 18-19

[Interview with Druze leader Walid Junblatt by Selim Nassib during tour of Ash-Shuf — date not given]

[Text] Beirut — *Liberation*: So, have you achieved victory?

Walid Junblatt: No. The battle is not over yet. Our enemies are persisting against the main Qabr Sham'un route. Without success. Two Army battalions are involved and are receiving support from a Lebanese Forces [FL] (Christian militia) barracks. We do not have as many men as they do. It is our artillery which is halting them. We are gathering as many reinforcements as possible to dispatch to the Qabr Sham'un front. Yesterday the Lebanese Army entered Sayyid 'Abdallah, a shrine of the Druze community. It completely destroyed and burned it. It is a ruthless and merciless struggle. What the Christians want is the complete destruction of what remains of the Lebanese mountains. But they must remember that tens upon tens of thousands of people (Christians from Ash-Shuf — *Liberation* editor's note) have taken refuge in Dayr al-Qamar, and Dayr al-Qamar will become a political stake. If they intend to destroy the Druze villages, Dayr al-Qamar will be destroyed.

Liberation: What will the next important battle be?

Walid Junblatt: At present the battle is being fought at Qabr Sham'un. The general heading the Army has called for a general mobilization. That means that the Muslim troops are for all intents and purposes no longer fighting. It means that he is calling on the Christian reservists. This is becoming an all-out struggle, a compeltely religious struggle.

Liberation: Would the Druze fight such a battle?

Walid Junblatt: I was a little surprised. But the Druze who have been surrounded in their villages for a year took up arms to defend themselves. There has been vast destruction. The Druze have fought so fiercely because they wanted to live and to hold on to this land. We have no other refuge. We have been living together (Christians and Druze — *Liberation* editor's note) for hundreds of years. The Phalangists (Christian militia — *Liberation* editor's note) came on the pretext of protecting the Christians but, in fact, their aim was to oust the Druze. There are now no longer any Christians. The Christians left with the Phalangists. What an exploit! I have a militia. I do not have an army. How can I prevent extremist action if the Phalangists continue their stupid policy? I would like to go and liberate the families of Dayr al-Qamar, but I cannot.

Liberation: Have there been excesses?

Walid Junblatt: So far, yes there have been outrages by both sides, but limited ones. How do you expect the Druze to react after one of their holy places has been destroyed? All this is the line advocated by Bashir al-Jumayyil (leader of the Christian militia, assassinated in September 1982, brother of the current

president of the republic — *Liberation* editor's note). He was not able to tolerate his own Christian allies; how do you expect him to tolerate me, a Druze?

Liberation: What exactly do you want?

Walid Junblatt: Peace, a political compromise. I am not waging war for its own sake. I want peace in a democratic, liberal, and multidenominational Lebanon. Not a Phalangist Lebanon! I am totally opposed to a Phalangist Lebanon.

Liberation: Do you want peace with the Phalangists too?

Walid Junblatt: Yes, if they want a compromise. But so far it seems that Amin al-Jumayyil does not want one. That is why he is appealing for all kinds of international mediation and making threats. I intend to defend myself.

Liberation: What would the conditions for such a compromise be?

Walid Junblatt: Withdrawal of the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army from the mountains and the redeployment of the Army in West Beirut.

Liberation: So far you have not called for Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation...

Walid Junblatt: I have called for the resignation of the government, the commander in chief of the Army, and the chief of staff, who are responsible for the Kfar Matta massacre (the Progressive Socialist Party accuses the Army and the FL of perpetrating a massacre in Kfar Matta, killing around 40 civilians — *Liberation* editor's note). Yesterday there was another massacre in Bnayh, but for the time being I am not challenging Amin al-Jumayyil's legitimacy...

Liberation: Do you think he is the Phalangists' hostage?

Walid Junblatt: This excuse is not valid. Father and son follow the same policy. It is a totalitarian and fascist plan. We will try to reach a compromise, but is it possible with a totalitarian force? There has hitherto been no such case in history.

Liberation: The Druze militia have been accused of taking the multinational force as a target.

Walid Junblatt: I have nothing to do with the multinational force! I think an attempt is being made to fire on the multinational force to draw it into a fight with the Druze. I have not fired on the multinational force. The Americans fired on some Druze positions yesterday. I do not intend to fire on the multinational force, but I want it to be impartial too. The French statements are more or less partial. The U.S. statements are threatening. Has the multinational force come to bring peace to Lebanon or to support Al-Jumayyil's Phalangists?

Liberation: What do you think of French Defense Minister Charles Hernu's warning?

Walid Junblatt: Why this threatening tone toward the Druze? And then there is Chad! What is this ambiguous policy by socialist France, which remains vaguely colonialist? We know about the Americans. But what about France?

Liberation: Are you demanding the withdrawal of the multinational force from Lebanon?

Walid Junblatt: If it continues to follow an ambiguous policy, then, yes, I will ask for its withdrawal.

Liberation: You are now Syria's ally. The latter has different demands from you, in particular the annulment of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement of 17 May...

Walid Junblatt: We too are demanding the annulment of that agreement, which divides Lebanon into two zones. Relations between Lebanon and Syria are historic. There is a common national interest. This is why I am automatically Syria's ally.

Liberation: What forces are fighting alongside you?

Walid Junblatt: In any case, the Syrians are not fighting. Only the PSP and the Druze are fighting. I do not want the Palestinians' help. It is a purely Lebanese battle.

Liberation: Are there Syrian Druze with you?

Walid Junblatt: No, the Lebanese Druze are capable of fulfilling their task.

Army, Mediation, Dialogue

PM141617 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 11 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Report on interview with Progressive Socialist Party Leader Walid Junblatt by Louis Faris in Damascus — date not given]

[Text] Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] Leader Walid Junblatt has praised the efforts Saudi Arabia is making to promote accord and prevent bloodshed in Lebanon. We fully understand, he said, and we are convinced of the need for a serious dialogue between the Lebanese authorities and the National Salvation Front [NSF]. He added: I give my word of honor that we will not enter Dayr al-Qamar.

In an interview with *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat*, Junblatt said that on Thursday night he met for 3 hours with Prince Bandar ibn Sultan in the office of Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The Druze leader said that the question at present is whether Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil is willing to share power with others and restore the traditional balance in Lebanon. He added: As long as he does not recognize the existence of the nationalist democratic trend and does not want to respond to our demands, I see no alternative to continued struggle.

Talking about the problem of the Army, Junblatt said: Every time the issue of mutual political concessions was raised the question of the Army was the stumbling block. We cannot accept

the Army because it sides with the Phalangists. Every time they come forward we see massacres.

Junblatt emphasized that the Druze are in a very good position. He added: I give my word of honor, which is binding on me, the Druze sect, and the PSP, that we will not enter Dayr al-Qamar, but at the same time I appeal to the Christians in Dayr al-Qamar to resist the outsiders, in other words, the Phalangists who entered it under the pretext of protecting the Christians when their real aim is to oust the Druze from the mountain area.

Asked about the concessions he would be willing to make, the PSP leader said: I have no concessions to offer unless Al-Jumayyil accepts our demands. Only one issue is not negotiable as far as we are concerned. We will fight to the last man before allowing the Army to enter our areas. The Army will not enter our areas before a national accord is achieved.

Junblatt: If Prince Bandar asks to see me again, I am quite willing. I appreciate the efforts Saudi Arabia is making.

He criticized the attitude of the multinational forces. He said: "These forces are increasingly siding with Al-Jumayyil as if their aim is to protect his regime and help him implement his sectarian policies instead of keeping the peace in Lebanon. If the situation develops, we, after consultation with our allies in the NSF, will call for the departure of these forces."

Damascus Press Conference

JN150637 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus — Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], has declared that efforts and endeavors are continuing to reach a cease-fire agreement in Lebanon and to realize a political settlement, and that the main problem essentially now revolves around the Lebanese Army which has intervened as a party to the conflict.

In a press conference held in Damascus last night, Junblatt said that the Lebanese Army must withdraw from the areas it occupies in the mountain. Within sight of this Army, numerous massacres were committed, Junblatt said. He added: We cannot trust this Army which fights alongside the Phalangists.

Junblatt pointed out that the Lebanese regime has refused the Saudi-Syrian mediation by insisting that the Army be involved in internal disputes. He said: In this regard, I would like to say that a certain Army division is fighting on behalf of theisolationists. Other Army divisions are neutral. Part of this Army has fled out of its desire not to be involved in internal problems. Al-Jumayyil wants the Army to be a Phalangist army, an army for the Al-Jumayyil family. We want this Army to be an army for everyone.

Junblatt added: We blame the United States, the mediators who could not grasp the significance of the Lebanese events, and those who view the Army as the only legitimate administration to unify the country. Before the West Beirut disaster and the entry of the Lebanese Army there, we warned against the involvement of the Army and the consequencies of such an entry. However, the Army entered and the disaster took place.

Speaking about the Army's treatment of the people and its bias, Junblatt said: Why does not the Army treat non-Phalangist citizens in the same manner it treats the Phalangists? The Army went so far as to stand with the Phalangists in one trench by striking at the mountain and West Beirut and imposing Phalangist hegemony over the nationalist forces by the force of arms.

Junblatt said: We now demand the return of the Army to its barracks. We want this Army to remain for everyone. We wantit to gain the trust of everyone. We demand a serious , effective dialogue. We accept Internal Security Forces in the mountain and Ash-Shuf. We do not want the situation to be decided militarily. We would like to recall that before the recent events, the mountain was quiet and there were posts for the Internal Security Forces. Al-Jumayyil insists on rejecting the Army withdrawal and on using the Army in internal affairs.

Junblatt reiterated his warning to the United States not to get involved in a Lebanese-Lebanese dispute saying: We remind the United States of its intervention in Cambodia and Vietnam and of the negative consequencies of this intervention. We warn the Marines and all the multinational forces against intervention because their presnece in Lebanon is to help reach a political settlement and not to help Al-Jumayyil's regime against the Lebanese people.

Junblatt said that Al-Wazzan is an employee working for Amin al-Jumayyil and does not represent anybody at all.

Junblatt said: We want to participate in the decisionmaking and in the equilibrium. We speak on behalf of the Lebanese Salvation Front and the Lebanese Muslims. We will all defend [sentence incomplete]. The Front's forces are fighting with us. We are ready to accept any positive gesture that leads to Lebanese unity and justice for all.

VOL: Arens Orders Investigation of Massacre

NC141000 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Information available to the Voice of Lebanon states that Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens has ordered an investigation into the new dreadful massacre that has been perpetrated by the Socialists against the innocent unarmed people of Ma'asir ash-Shuf. This massacre claimed 84 Christian victims. Arens' interest in this massacre is due to the fact that it occurred in an area that is under Israeli control and in a township that has suffered a fate similar to what has befallen the areas that were vacated by the Israeli forces without coordination with the Lebanese Army.

Palestinians Bring Vehicles, Guns to Mountain
NC141354 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] A military source has stated that the Lebanese Army positions in the area of Ash-Shiyah have been subjected to gunfire and sniper fire. The Army answered and destroyed the sources of fire. The Army also destroyed a convoy of foreign gunmen as it was advancing on the Al-Ghabun road.

The military source said that Palestinian vehicles today continued to flow from the northern area in the direction of the mountain via Al-Biqa'. The Palestinians brought in 15 vehicles and 6 antiaircraft guns. Three shells fell on the Al-Kaslik shore. A security source said that the source of these shells was the French Room [as heard] in Sannin.

Regarding the Israeli force which crossed the redeployment line this morning and deployed close to the Shhim town junction, it has been reported that this force has advanced in the direction off As-Sa'diyat and deployed near the palace of [former] President Sham'un.

Patrols Deployed in Tripoli 14 September
NC141253 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] On the security situation in Tripoli, our correspondent there reports the following:

[Begin recording] The question of remedying the security situation in the capital of the north was discussed by the political, security, and party leaderships in the city during the past 3 weeks. After lengthy meetings held by the Northern Coordination Committee under the chairmanship of former Prime Minister Rashid Karami, following the efforts of the security followup committee with the leaderships in the city and according to the agreement reached yesterday, the northern police garrison command has been notified of the provisions of the agreement and the method of implementing the measures. As of this morning, Internal Security Forces' patrols have been deployed in the city streets, in addition to fixed patrols setting up checkpoints and searching vehicles. The Internal Security Forces' command has also reinforced the police stations in the city.

It was observed today that the armed manifestations are noticeably disappearing in the city. A well-informed source in the coordination committee has indicated that it is hoped that the Internal Security Forces will take over all centers in the city. Tony Na'mah speaking to you from the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY office in Tripoli. [end recording]

VOL: 150 of Muslim Brotherhood Killed in Syria
NC141328 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Special information available to the Voice of Lebanon states that 150 members of the Muslim Brotherhood have died in one group in an Aleppo prison last Saturday. They were killed by rocket projectiles [qadh'if sarukhiyah] fired on them from Syrian helicopters.

The information adds that the city of Homs was rocked by three successive explosions that were aimed against a Syrian intelligence center and two official institutions. The explosions left two persons dead and seven others seriously wounded.

Other information says that in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' and north well known quarters have booby-trapped a number of Mercedes 200, Mercedes 280, and BMW's. These cars were prepared in Ba'labakk and Tripoli and the operations come within the context of the criminal terrorist acts that are aimed against the military and official institutions. Information indicates that these quarters enlist the help of some government employees in return for certain sums of money.

Meanwhile, the Syrian authorities summon tribal chieftains in the districts of Ba'labakk and Al-Hirmil to put them in the picture concerning the battles that are going on in Lebanon. It has been learned that Syrian intelligence officials had earlier met with these chieftains and then issued a statement — of which the chieftains were not informed — attacking the Lebanese authority. This action caused indignation among the residents of the whole area.

The Syrian authorities also summoned Lebanese officers to Damascus. A meeting was held in the office of Syrian Major General 'Ali Aslan to discuss the way to face the situation. It has been learned that the Syrians informed the Lebanese officers that from now on the Syrian forces cannot ensure protection for the military barracks of the Lebanese Army in Al-Biqa' and that, consequently, the Syrian forces will have nothing to do with what might happen.

With regard to the military quarters on the mountain [as heard], the Voice of Lebanon has learned that a relative standstill exists pending the receipt of new instructions from Shtawrah, and pending the consolidation of positions, particularly those facing Suq al-Gharb.

It remains to remark that the Druze have expressed dissatisfaction over the admission of wounded Palestinians into hospitals on the mountain, which prompted the Palestinian commands to move their dead and wounded to Al-Biqa.

Palestinian, Syrian Troops Arrive in Mountain
NC141642 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Palestinian, Socialist, and Syrian convoys continue to arrive in the mountain areas. In the meantime, the Israelis set up a checkpoint near [former] President Camille Sham'un's palace in As-Sa'diyyat.

Israeli Force Withdraws to Sidon 14 September
NC142145 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The Israeli force, which crossed the redeployment line this morning and deployed near the Shhim town junction and this afternoon advanced in the direction of As-Sa'diyat taking up a position near the palace of President Sham'un, withdrew to Sidon at 1600 today.

Syria Supplies Arms to Ba'thists in Ba'labakk
NC141757 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Reports reaching the Voice of Lebanon have indicated that the Syrian forces — Ba'thists and Arab Knights — have asked their elements in Ba'labakk to declare a general mobilization. These elements, who have been supplied with heavy Syrian weapons, have been instructed to leave for the Al-'Aqurah area and take up strategic positions there. Military vehicles are being transported on a dirt road which has been dug by the Syrians and which links southern Jubayl with Ba'labakk.

Sidon Port Open; Beirut Airport Still Closed
NC141846 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The port of Sidon was opened today to citizens who wish to travel abroad. The port was opened after contacts were made by functionaries in Sidon with the Israeli forces. These contacts were made in view of the fact that Beirut International Airport is still closed and because of the situation on the coastal Sidon-Beirut road.

Army Repulses Attack in Suq al-Gharb Area
NC150518 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] At 0400 today, the Lebanese Army's positions came under an attack in Suq al-Gharb from the axes of 'Aytat, 'Alayh, and Baysur. An artillery barrage had earlier set the stage for the attack. The Army returned the fire and repulsed the attackers. Last night, these axes were the scene of sporadic shelling.

The attack to which Suq al-Gharb was subjected this morning was coupled with sorties by Lebanese Air Force planes over the capital and some areas of the mountain. These sorties lasted some 30 minutes.

At dawn today, the Lebanese Army stationed at Dahr al-Wash and 'Ayn ar-Rummanah repulsed a Syrian-Palestinian-Socialist infiltration attempt in the direction of the Army's positions. The Army put one of the vehicles used in the attack out of commission and inflicted numerous casualties on the attackers.

In Ash-Shiyah, military movements and groupings of armed communists and their associates have been observed. Sniper fire — directed toward the Army's positions in At-Tayyunah and in the two localities of the post office and the flour mills in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah — has been noted.

Report on Overflights, Clashes 15 September
NC150644 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] At 0500 today, citizens woke up to the sounds of warplanes overflying the capital and then over the mountain. The editorial room contacted the appropriate security authorities which indicated that the warplanes were from the Lebanese Air Force. There were four planes which made four successive sorties.

The overflights of the Lebanese planes over the capital and the mountain was accompanied by renewed fighting in Suq al-Gharb, 'Aytat, Kayfun, Baysur, 'Alayh, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, up to al-Hadath. Artillery and rocket fire was used in these battles.

Two French Soldiers Wounded in West Beirut
NC151106 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1045 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] At 1045 today, two French soldiers were wounded when two persons riding on a motorcycle threw a handgrenade at a French position near the Carmel movie theater in the Al-Mazra'ah neighborhood [in West Beirut].

Relief Teams Unable To Reach Dayr al-Qamar
NC150712 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Red Cross and civil defense teams are still unable to enter Dayr al-Qamar because the roads are cut.

A spokesman for the Progressive Socialist Party said in a statement carried by news agencies from Damascus that his forces will not allow the Red Cross to enter Dayr al-Qamar before the Red Cross team enters Kafr Matta to recover the bodies of those killed there.

Civil defense men yesterday entered Bi'wirta, Dqun, Kafr Matta, 'Bayh, 'Ayn Ksur, and Qabr Shmun and found no civilians or bodies there. They were unable to enter the Rishmayya, Rimhala, and Dqun Areas because of difficulties reaching those areas.

'Responsible Source' on U.S. Threats, Lebanon Policy

JN150841 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0817 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following:

It has become clear to the Arab and world public that the United States is increasing the explosiveness and complexity of the Lebanese situation on the political and military levels. The United States is now acting as though Lebanon were a U.S. protectorate. The situation has reached such an extent that U.S. troops are intervening in military actions and that orders were issued to them from Washington to take part in combat operations in Lebanon under the pretext of self-defense. U.S. envoys and diplomats are tacitly intervening in all small and big issues concerning Lebanon's internal and external affairs, and making decisions that define Lebanon's Arab and international relations against the will of the Lebanese people with the exception of a small group represented by the Phalangist party. This has resulted in and was also accompanied by U.S. and Phalangist escalation of the tension and by harshpositions to hamper any Arab moves to cease fire and begin national dialogue in Lebanon.

The Syrian Arab Republic alerts world public opinion to the threats inherent in the direct U.S. intervention in Lebanon. At the same time, Syria warns of the consequences of this new U.S. involvement and its threat to the security of this region and the world. Syria calls on the Arab masses and their nationalist and progressive forces to be alert and ready to confront and foil this U.S. onslaught.

Affirming its legitimate right in defending itself if its forces are exposed to aggression and its firm stand alongside the fraternal Lebanese people and its nationalist forces, Syria declares that the massing of U.S. fleets and aircraft carriers will not frighten us but will increase our determination to confront the aggressors, armed with our people, army, and profound faith in our just cause and the support of the Arab masses and world liberation forces everywhere.

Khaddam Meets Saudi, U.S. Envoys 14 September

JN142122 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met in Damascus last night [14 September] with Saudi envoy Bandar ibn Sultan. Khaddam earlier met with U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane and his delegation.

Report on Mediation Efforts

JN141820 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1707 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Telephone dispatch from Louis Faris, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus —live or recorded]

[Text] Contacts and talks intensified in the Syrian capital throughout the day in an attempt to find a solution to the present tragic Lebanese situation, particularly after the Lebanese Government's rejection of the joint Syrian-Saudi proposals. The U.S. escalation had a large impact on these talks and good offices. Saudi envoy Prince Bandar, who returned here yesterday afternoon, was surprised at the impact of the U.S. threats and provocations. Syria replied to the U.S. escalation yesterday when Minister Faruq ash-Shar' warned against direct U.S. military involvement in Lebanon and held Washington responsible for the exacerbation of the situation.

It was clear to observers here that the serious U.S. threats had negatively affected the diplomatic efforts, particularly since these threats have not changed the fait accompli regarding either the Lebanese opposition or the Syrian stand. They believe that Washington's escalation, threats, and provocations encourage the Lebanese regime to toughen rather than soften its stand. This means that the U.S. acts will exacerbate the situation instead of calming it down. Hence, the U.S. escalation had a negative impace on the course of talks and mediations.

Informed diplomatic sources told us that contrary to what is reported by circles close to the Lebanese regime, Saudi Arabia has not gone back on the proposals it signed with Syria on Sunday. Saudi Arabia only suggested an amendment to the method of implementation. It suggested beginning an immediate cease-fire in the areas where the warring factions are currently stationed, stationing neutral observers, extending relief aid to the two sides' evacuees, and embarking on a national dialogue as soon as possible, but not before the situation calms down and the atmosphere becomes appropriate for such a dialogue.

Prince Bandar, who felt the impact of the atmosphere caused by the serious U.S. escalation, summoned the U.S. ambassador in Damascus —as informed diplomatic sources told us —and told him that no mediator in this world can work in these fabricated and negative atmospheres. The Saudi side warned of the dangers of U.S. military involvement in Lebanon, particularly since such an involvement may negatively reflect on the basic U.S. interests in the region. Therefore, observers felt before noon today that the Saudi mediation has receded a little as if it is waiting for something to occur. Meanwhile, optimism has greatly diminished.

Minister Khaddam devoted all of his time to receiving Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, who stopped here for about 5 hours during which he held talks with Minister Khaddam. President Hafiz al-Asad then received the Kuwaiti minister. This is the second time Shaykh Jabir has visited Syria in 20 days. It is well known that he is on a mission entrusted to him by the GCC states to purify the Arab atmosphere and prepare for the next Arab summit conference. Shaykh al-Ahmad also felt the impact and seriousness of the U.S. escalation.

Later this afternoon a surprise took place when special U.S. envoy Robert McFarlane suddenly arrived here after Shaykh al-Ahmad's departure. Minister Khaddam received McFarlane about 1/2 hour after the latter's arrival. The meeting lasted about 90 minutes, after which McFarlane left and met with Prince Bandar for a short while. He then left for the U.S. Embassy to hold contacts with Washington, and presumably with Beirut as well.

It is notweorthy that a Progressive Socialist Party spokesman here denied reports this evening that the party prevented the Red Cross convoys from entering Dayr al-Qamar township. He stressed that Walid Junblatt had ordered the party fighters to allow the entry of all the Red Cross convoys. I have learned that Junblatt inspected the mountain positions today.

A short while ago I learned that Prince Bandar has gone to bid Minister Khaddam farewell, and that he is getting ready to fly back to Jidda. Envoy McFarlane is still in the U.S. Embassy holding his contacts. Meanwhile, diplomatic sources told us that U.S. political circles are extremely pessimistic. A feeling prevailed this evening that the Saudi side held the U.S. side largely responsible for the exacerbation of the situation, and that it is planning to throw the ball of mediation into the U.S. court.

So far, nothing has been learned about McFarlane's next moves, although the U.S. impasse is quite clear. This is the picture at the time of this newscast, and all are awaiting developments.

Al-Asad Receives Kuwaiti Foreign Minister

JN141143 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Kuwaiti ambassador in Damascus. Talks during the meeting dealt with the situation in the region and the developments in the Lebanese arena.

Foreign Minister Leaves 14 Sep

JN141344 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Damascus this afternoon after a short visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Damascus Radio on U.S. Threats Against Syria

JN141346 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The White House yesterday announced that U.S. President Ronald Reagan has made a decision authorizing the Marine commanders in Lebanon to request the assistance of the U.S. planes on the aircraft carriers that are anchored at and near the Lebanese ports without first consulting Washington. White House Spokesman Larry Speakes said that the Marines can request the assistance of the planes should the Marines, the U.S. diplomats, or the multinational forces be exposed to danger. Speakes also gave another case which attracted our attention; namely in the event that the Lebanese Army's positions are penetrated.

At first glance, the U.S. President's decision reveals that the United States is consciously planning a new step to escalate tension in the Middle East to a point whose consequences cannot be predicated in advance and also to exacerbate the U.S. military interference in a region which is very important to a group of states that cannot remain silent on the disruption in a region where they have interests and which is close to their borders and the spheres of their national security. This decision also shows that the United States whose borders are thousands of kilometers away from Lebanon is determined to interfere in Lebanon's domestic affairs and to participate in Lebanon's domestic life which is difficult and complicated. Otherwise, why does the U.S. Administration encourage the Lebanese regime to reject the demands of the Lebanese national accord and urge the Marines to play a biased role in the current conflict among the various Lebanese factions?

The U.S. rashness, which has reached the extent of military involvement in Lebanon, might not be strange to the frameworks of the U.S. policy during Reagan's era. This policy, which through military interference in El Salvador protected the fascist regime which is hostile to the people and, through military interference used mercenaries and Honduras against the popular Sandinist regime in Nicaragua. The United States has forgotten that there are thousand of kilometers between Lebanon and the United States while the distance between Lebanon, Syria, and the other Arab countries is that which exists between the lung and the heart. Lebanon is also not too far from the USSR borders. Tampering in the region threatens peace. Sometimes, only a hair breadth separates muscle-flexing and involvement in armed conflicts. No one contests the fact that the United States is a superpower which possesses a large military force and sophisticated weapons. This is not new. The U.S. might, however, is not stronger than the law of the century or the peoples' will. There are many examples which may help the arrogant ones to give up their arrogance and those that have been deceived to return to the right course. Such an example is Cuba, the small socialist country which has existed for the past two decades on the threshhold of the leader of the capitalist world. Another example is Vietnam and Southeast Asia. The Vietnamese experience must not be forgotten by the rulers of the United States, particularly the stand of the U.S. people toward the military adventure in Vietnam and toward the thousands of dead and wounded.

The U.S. war machine sustained a humiliating defeat in Vietnam which made the successive U.S. Administrations adopt a policy of nonmilitary interference abroad. There are no signs to make one believe that a new military adventure in Lebanon will have better luck than the Vietnamese adventure or that it may win over U.S. public opinion or secure the silence of world public opinion.

The U.S. rulers, who are exacerbating political and military tension and interfering in Lebanon's domestic affairs will be fully responsible for the consequences which may result from U.S. military involvment in Lebanon against the Lebanese masses or against any Arab party in and outside of Lebanon. The United States has incited Israel to invade Lebanon with the purpose of using Lebanon as a means of pressure on the Arabs to generalize Reagan's plan. Lebanon, however, is becoming more and more a

burden on U.S. policy and an obstacle which can only be overcome with difficulty. Israel has removed itself from the limelight but has kept the territories which it covets and has left the United States to sink in the morass of the Lebanese internal situation.

If the United States seeks to really assist Lebanon, then this assistance cannot be by fanning the fire of war, opposing national accord, or by sabre-rattling.

Al-Asad Receives Visiting Cypriot Delegation

JN141932 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] At 1815 this evening President Hafiz al-Asad received Vassos Lissaridhis, leader of the Cypriot Socialist Party, and his delegation. Fawwaz Sayyagh, national command reserve member, attended the meeting. The talks revolved around developments in the Arab region and in the eastern Mediterranean, as well as the escalating imperialist onslaught and the need to strengthen joint struggle to confront this onslaught and its dangers.

Syrian, Bulgarian Officials Discuss Cooperation

JN141418 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1315 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, 14 Sep (SANA) — Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning, received here today the Bulgarian minister of light industry and his accompanying delegation. The Bulgarian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks during the meeting dealt with the relations of economic cooperation between the two countries according to the economic, scientific, and technical cooperation protocol and the basic agreements the two sides have signed.

Dr Sharaf affirmed Syria's desire to expedite the implementation of all clauses of the concluded agreements. For his part, the Bulgarian minister asserted Bulgaria's readiness to exert the necessary efforts to overcome all of the obstacles which hinder the development of relations of joint cooperation between the two countries in order to serve their common interests.

Al-Ahmar Receives GDR Envoy, Message for Al-Asad

JN141448 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, 14 Sep (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received here today the charge d'affaires of the GDR Embassy in Damascus. During the meeting, Comrade al-Ahmar received a message from Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED], for Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, on the results of the world scientific conference on Karl Marx and the struggle for peace and social progress which was held in the GDR last April. Certain procedures on the cooperation agreement between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the SED were discussed during the meeting.

RUDE PRAVO Interviews Communist Party Chief

AU141311 Prague Rude Pravo in Czech 13 Sep 83 p 6

[Interview given by Khalid Bakdash, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, to Stanislav Stepane: "Syria Is Entitled to Defend Itself"; precise date and place not given]

[Text] Khalid Bakdash, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party, who has been visiting Czechoslovakia these days at the CPCZ Central Committee's invitation, has granted an interview to *Rude Pravo*.

[Stepanek] Where in the current situation do you see the main obstacles to realizing the peace plan for resolving the Mideast crisis, which was adopted by the Arab states at the summit meeting in Fes?

[Bakdash] The situation in the Middle East is most complicated and dangerous. The main cause of this lies in the efforts of American imperialism which, in alliance with Israel and certain other reactionary circles, is striving to establish its military, political, and economic hegemony in the entire Mideast area. This is the basic cause of the complicated and dangerous nature of the situation. American imperialism is in fact striving to achieve the liquidation of the national independence of the people of various Arab countries, the independence which they had won in the long, difficult and stubborn battle that has been going on since the end of the World War II to this very day.

The truth is that certain reactionary Arab circles have capitulated before the United States; other circles are cooperating with the United States in its plans. Of course, in spite of all the diplomatic and military efforts, American imperialism has not succeeded in fully realizing its goals in the area. Let us look, for instance, at Lebanon. The Americans and Israel thought that they would find it easy to swallow it. They believed that the Lebanese "Phalange," this fascist organization, represents Lebanon, and that it would be very easy to control the whole country in the political and military sense. But it became obvious that this is not true. The opposition to the Israeli occupation and the American presence is constantly growing. The latest events prove that the United States is no longer satisfied with relying on its agents in Lebanon; it has therefore begun direct military interference. The Americans and their allies often speak, for instance, of protecting the Muslims in Afghanistan. At the same time the American Marines are firing straight at the Muslim population in Lebanon.

[Stepanek] A few days ago, the fighting in Lebanon was reopened with new strength. Syria has deployed its units in Lebanon within the framework of the Arab security corps. The United States and its allies claim that this is preventing the normalization of the situation in the country, and they accuse Syria of being Moscow's extended hand.

[Bakdash] Syria's stand is clear. We are opposed to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement because Syria's security is connected to a great extent with the development of the situation in Lebanon. Syria has declared that it would not withdraw its units from Lebanon as long as even one Israeli soldier remains in the country. Later

it consolidated its stand even further, and declared that it would not withdraw its units if Israel should acquire any privileges [vysady] in Lebanon.

The Israeli military units in Lebanon are intervention units, the units of an invader. Our formations entered Lebanese territory on the basis of a request made by the legitimate Lebanese Government within the framework of the Arab security corps. The states preventing normalization are the United States and Israel. Israel is striving to annex the southern part of the country, whereas Washington wants to turn Lebanon into its military base. Syria is not pursuing any annexationist or expansionist goals with regard to Lebanon. The relations between our two countries are relations between two Arab states which have been based on brotherhood and friendship since ancient times. And our military units have also played a significant role in the conclusion of the civil war in Lebanon.

As regards the West's claim that Syria is a kind of Moscow satellite, this is fundamentally false. Syria is an independent country which defends its independence. And the Soviet Union — which, as is known, supports all peoples who are fighting for their independence — is helping Syria on this basis, and at its own request. It is understandable that Syria is a thorn in the side of American imperialism and Israel. Because, in fact, it is fighting against imperialism itself, against Zionist plans. The fabrication about Moscow's hand is all old hat. For instance, the West is claiming about every national liberation movement that Moscow has its fingers in it.

After the Israeli invasion into Lebanon, Syria undertook measures for strengthening its defense, and particularly its anti-air defense. It is understandable that it was helped in this by the Soviet Union. The Americans immediately began shouting that Syria's strengthening its own defense is disrupting the stability and equilibrium throughout the area. What nonsense. Is Syria not entitled to strengthen its own defense, if the United States is granting Israel enormous military, material, and financial assistance — and not for Israel to defend itself, but for it to carry out a policy of aggression against neighboring Arab states , as the events are proving?

[Stepanek] Currently Syrian-Palestinian relations have become a very sensitive factor on the Mideast political stage. How do the Syrian communists appraise the present situation in the PLO, and Syria's relationship toward the Palestinian resistance?

[Bakdash] The Syrian, and generally all Arab, communists are of the opinion that secondary, subsidiary internal problems must be never superimposed over the main goal — to build a proper independent Palestinian state under the PLO's leadership. Various streams exist in the Palestinian movement; that is absolutely natural if we look at them from a class viewpoint. But of course, I repeat, the main task must always prevail over secondary problems, on which differing opinions may exist inside the movement. We communists are striving for the unity of every separate component of the Palestinian resistance movement, and simultaneously for the cohesion of all these components in the fight against American imperialism and Zionism and in the fight for building an independent Palestinian state proper. That is also why we want a united Fatah organization, and why we are convinced that the conflicts inside it can be resolved through democratic dialogue. Unity is the main issue.

Our party quite openly expressed its regret over the aggravation of Syrian-Palestinian relations; We have clearly shown our independent stand. In this instance, too, we are convinced that the conflicts may be resolved within the framework of negotiations, within the framework of fraternal patriotism.

A declaration of 12 communist and workers parties of the Arab world was published this June. Among other things, it calls particularly for the PLO's unity, and for improving relations between Syria and the Palestine movement as a whole. It is in the interests of both Syria and the Palestine movement that relations of fraternal cooperation should exist between them.

[Stepanek] Permit me now to ask you about another sphere. Which main tasks are confronting your party in the domestic-political sphere?

[Bakdash] The basis of our attitude toward any regime, government, party, or personality is their attitude toward imperialism, that means toward the greatest danger. That is why, generally speaking, we support Syria's policy. Naturally this does not prevent us in the least from fighting for the interests of the broadest strata of the population — in fact, our duty dictates that we do this. We in Syria are fighting for the people's democratic and economic interests and demands. From the economic viewpoint, the present situation in Syria is difficult. This must be realized. Our efforts to achieve a true people's democracy and to improve the living standards of the people's masses are constant. That is why we work among the broad people's strata in every plant and every enterprise in which we have members. This is also the policy followed by our communist ministers in the government.

We are also fighting for identical aims within the framework of the progressive National Front, of which we are members together with the Ba'th party and other progressive parties. We consider it most important not to let American imperialism drag Syria to its knees. And the only correct path to this goal is to rely on the people's masses.

[Stepanek] Can you say, in conclusion, a few words about your visit to Czechoslovakia?

[Bakdash] Czechoslovakia has won deserved authority not only among us communists but also among the vast patriotic Arab circles because of its firm and principled stand, consisting of the support of nations which are fighting for their independence, sovereignty, and happy life. As an old communist, I am filled with deep admiration for the CPCZ, which has proved in practice that the doctrine of Marxism-Leninism is applicable to all countries. It has broken up the myth saying that this doctrine is allegedly unsuitable for advanced capitalist countries. Personally, I am glad to state on my every visit to your country that it has achieved a new advance, new progress for the people's benefit.

Begin Resignation Letter Submitted to President

TA151109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Statement by Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor upon submission of Prime Minister Menahem Begin's letter of resignation to President Herzog, at the presidential residence in Jerusalem — live]

[Text] The prime minister has asked me to submit his letter of resignation to the president. The prime minister wanted to do this himself, but since he is still forced to stay in, he has asked me to fulfill this mission for him, on his behalf.

Cabinet Secretary Answers Questions

TA151138 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1130 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Interview with Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor by Yosi Qoren in front of the presidential residence in Jerusalem after Meridor submitted the letter of resignation on behalf of Prime Minister Menahem Begin — live]

[Text] [Qoren] The president has not yet approached the people waiting in the reception room, but Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor has meanwhile left the president's office. What did you tell the president just now?

[Meridor] I gave him the prime minister's letter of resignation. I visited the prime minister today twice, and gave him current material. He asked me to submit the letter of resignation to the president. Since he is still at home, the prime minister could not come out and talk. The prime minister wished the president the ritual blessing for Yom Kippur.

By law, from the moment that the resignation has been submitted, the Cabinet is seen as having resigned. According to the law, the Cabinet and the prime minister continue to function until a new Cabinet is formed.

[Qoren] How are the prime minister's spirits?

[Meridor] Fine, thank God.

[Qoren] Is he feeling well?

[Meridor] I saw him. He is feeling well.

[Qoren] Does he intend to address the nation in light of this resignation?

[Meridor] I do not know. I cannot answer you right now. At any rate, as I said, he will continue to serve as prime minister until a new Cabinet is formed.

[Qoren] Thank you very much, Dan Meridor.

Herzog Reads Begin Resignation

TA151145 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1135 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Statement by President Hayim Herzog after Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor submitted Prime Minister Menahem Begin's letter of resignation on his behalf, at the presidential residence reception room — live]

[Text] Prime Minister Mr Menahem Begin has just sent me his letter of resignation through Cabinet Secretary Mr Dan Meridor, saying: Dear Mr President, according to clause 23A of the Basic Law: The Government, I have the honor of submitting to you my letter of resignation from my post as prime minister. Respectfully and with a wish for Yom Kippur to all the members of your household, Menahem Begin.

According to Basic Law: The Government regulations, the prime minister's resignation is the resignation of the entire Cabinet; and according to clause 25 of the Basic Law: The Government, it is my duty to launch the process to form a new Cabinet. In the next few days, I will summon the representatives of the Knesset factions to hold consultations with them, as demanded by the law.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and appreciation, from the bottom of my heart, to Menahem Begin for his great deeds throughout the years for the people of Israel. This is not the appropriate place to detail the great saga of his deeds. This is written in the annals of our history and will be remembered forever.

I would also like to thank the prime minister for the honest, fair, and full cooperation which I enjoyed on his part and convey to him my best personal wishes for a speedy recovery, good health, and success in whatever he does.

As I have just said, I will begin consultations with the representatives of the factions according to the established order and in accordance with the law and procedure set over the years. The purpose of the consultations is to find out which candidate has the best chance of enlisting the majority required in the Knesset, and then entrust him with the job of forming a government.

Thank you, and I wish you the very best Yom Kippur.

Alignment, Shinuy React

TA151037 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1024 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Here are the initial reactions to the announcement on the resignation: It was said in the Alignment building today that Menahem Begin's resignation is an admission of the fact that he has reached the end of his political path, and if Menahem Begin has reached this conclusion, his successors should likewise adopt it.

In the Shinuy faction, MK Amnon Rubinstein said: I welcome Menahem Begin's step, which was required by his announcement to the Cabinet. The only thing I can do now is to wish Menahem Begin good health and a long life.

Interview With Levi

TA142055 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister David Levi by Hayim Yavin, Ya'aqov Ahime'ir, and Nisim Mish'al on the weekly "Moqed" program, in the television studio — live]

[Excerpts] [Ahime'ir] Mr Levi, good evening to you.

[Levi] Good evening.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, do you know or can you tell us about the condition or the state of health of Prime Minister Begin?

[Levi] The prime minister is not feeling well. He is resting. Let us wish him a speedy recovery and good health. I hope that in the coming days he will carry through his announcement and will go to the president to submit his resignation.

[Ahime'ir] Do You know when?

[Levi] I hope in the coming days, perhaps this week even.

[Ahime'ir] That is, if this is still before Yom Kippur, it may take place tomorrow.

[Levi] Possibly, maybe.

[Ahime'ir] Is the prime minister delaying his resignation due to his state of health? Is this the reason for the delay in formally submitting his resignation to the president?

[Levi] Well, I will say nothing new if I say that during the first days [after Begin's announcement] something was requested by all the coalition members to be able to consolidate the principle of the continuation of the government, or to be more precise, of the coalition. Later, Begin felt unwell and is resting. I hope this matter will be resolved, that he will feel well and will do what is legally required by his announcement.

[Mish'al] You are his replacement. Has he transferred any authority to you?

[Levi] I am acting for him and by law I am fulfilling all that is necessary to fulfill this position. Let your mind be at peace: Everything is all right.

[Mish'al] Are you consulting with him, for example? I understand that in recent days there have been decisions that led you to call him. Have you been in any contact with him?

[Levi] There are consultations, not only with the prime minister but also with the foreign minister, the defense minister, and other ministers as well. The state's affairs are being handled.

[Yavin] Mr Levi, there is a peculiar situation and the opposition claims this situation is really intolerable. During this time-out, which the prime minister enabled you to have in fact, a coalition agreement was achieved, but the prime minister has still not gone to the president to submit his resignation. Why not? What is preventing him from doing so?

[Levi] You are in fact asking me a question about his health. I said, and this is no secret, that the prime minister is not feeling well and this is the answer actually. There is no trick or exercise here. After all, we beseeched the prime minister not to resign, to rescind his decision to resign, but his decision was firm and he is abiding by it. The matter is a personal one and he should be allowed to have a number of days before he goes to the president and performs the act called for by his announcement.

[Ahime'ir] The question is, Mr Deputy Prime Minister, whether this is good for the state, if you like. Decisions should be made. Decisions are not made in the economic sphere,for example. One can assume that decisions, perhaps on a daily basis, should be made on Lebanese affairs. How long can this situation, this vacuum continue?

[Levi] I would like to mention that there were periods when it took many weeks to form a government. We are conducting the national affairs as a legal, elected government which performs its duties. When you probe into this matter of when the prime minister will go to the president, you act as if the government does not exist, that the country has no leaders to conduct its affairs. Let us return to reality and see that there is a government; there are decisions being made and they are being implemented.

[Mish'al] Does it not disturb the Cabinet that its chairman is at home in fact and is not making decisions?

[Levi] I would be happier if Prime Minister Begin continued in office.

[Yavin] Who is handling the state affairs? Is is Mr Begin or you?

[Levi] It is the government that is handling matters. The prime minister is Mr Menahem Begin; by law I am acting for him and matters are proceeding well.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Levi, excuse me for the probing, as you term this, but I believe questions on this issue should be posed since this concerns the government of this state. Has Mr Begin transferred his authority to you?

[Levi] They are transferred by virtue of the law and I am exercising them.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Deputy Prime Minister, in retrospect, do you think Israel made a mistake in carrying out the withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf Mountains before previously guaranteeing the well-being of the Lebanese citizens in that area?

[Levi] I want to say here that we did the best we could; we did everything possible to bring about an understanding between the factions and the Lebanese Government. We mediated and gave advice, and we almost reached an agreement. However, this agreement did not materialize not because of Israel — and I should add — not because of the Druze. There was a certain measure of obstinacy on the part of the Lebanese Government. I am very sorry that they did not anticipate what was to come.

On the other hand, the central issue is: Everything that is happening there is repulsive and repugnant, especially for us in Israel. Does anybody or would anybody suggest that we should have stayed there forever and endanger the lives of our soldiers? These days as well we are threatening the Druze and the opposite side lest they behave as they once did. We are doing our best.

At the same time, we did not see ourselves as Lebanon's police, as able to morally endanger the lives of our soldiers in order to change the behavior of a nation. How long and how much should we have paid? In view of this moral constriction and concern for the life of our soldiers, the government made its decision.

[Yavin] Mr Levi, I will refer to the moral aspect — your remarks are critical of the Lebanese Government; perhaps you will also address yourself to this question. According to various estimates, there are 30,000 to 40,000 refugees in Dayr al-Qamar — women, children, and the elderly who are facing annihilation. I would very much appreciate an unambiguous answer: Do you believe that Israel should take action to rescue these people?

[Levi] Israel is doing its best, through various means, to prevent a cruel development there and the loss of human life. Israel is not doing that on its own but together with the United States.

[Yavin] If diplomatic action fails, should Israel take military action to rescue these people?

[Levi] We are closely following this issue, with intense concern. We will not allow a massacre to take place there.

[Yavin] That is to say that we will also take military action?

[Levi] The government will decide about that.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Minister, you said something quite important earlier, that we are not the police of Lebanon. Is this the new way in which the government sees the current situation in Lebanon? Is it that we are now saying that we are not Lebanon's police?

[Levi] No, it is not a new view. We launched this operation to defend our security and that of our settlements. We did what we had to do, that is, to drive the danger away from our settlements and to destroy the terrorists' infrastructure there — and that is exactly what we did. At the same time, we searched for every possible way to reach an agreement — or, perhaps, an arrangement — which would allow us quiet in the north of the country or maybe peace with Lebanon. However, this did not materialize. We have never said that we would stay there forever. Also, our deployment along the new line is not permanent. With patience and firmness we will do everything possible to reach an arrangement that will guarantee the security of our settlements.

Justice Minister Contradicts Levi

TA150815 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Excerpt] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi is not acting as prime minister during Menahem Begin's illness. His statement on television last night that the premier's powers had been "transferred" to him "according to the law" was factually incorrect, according to Justice Minister Moshe Nisim.

Nisim's version, flatly contradicting Levi's, was supported by other Cabinet sources queried.

According to the law (Basic Law: The Government, Section 19), "If the prime minister is...temporarily unable to fulfil his functions, the Cabinet must appoint another minister...to act in his stead."

Justice Minister Nisim said last night that Begin "is not 'unable to fulfil his functions,'" and hence, "the Cabinet has not appointed another minister to act in his stead."

Nisim noted that Begin had asked Levi to chair the weekly Cabinet session on Sunday in his stead. But other than that, there had been no transfer of authority which, to be done legally, should be done under section 19.

Aides to the prime minister also insist that Begin is continuing to exercise his role and functions as prime minister despite confinement to his home due to illness.

In practice, according to knowledgeable insiders, the day-to-day decision-making on Lebanon is handled by Defence Minister Moshe Arens and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir.

Poll on Begin Resignation

TA141606 Jerusalem Koteret Rashit in Hebrew 14 Sep 83 p 5

[Report by Eliyahu Hasin on DAHAF poll]

[Text] When Menahem Begin dropped his resignation bombshell on 29 August, his surprising announcement immediately aroused great interest among the public. A special poll conducted by the research institute affiliated with DAHAF examined the matter during the period from 30 August to 1 September, from the moment the campaign to persuade Begin to rescind his decision ended up to the beginning of the race at the Herut Center convention, but before its results were known.

In the first round of this poll, *Koteret Rashit* sought to examine three immediate questions: Two referred to the resignation itself and the third dealt with whether Menahem Begin's resignation was right or wrong. The poll included 1,180 people and the answers are given in percentages:

The right move — 60 percent; the wrong move — 36 percent; abstained — 4 percent.

As it was assumed that not all those in favor of or against Begin's move would be among his opponents, a second question was posed in order to complete the picture. This question was designed to see how many of those polled are satisfied or dissatisfied with the resignation. The results were as follows:

Satisfied with the resignation — 44 percent; dissatisfied — 52 percent; the rest abstained from giving an answer.

A comparison of the answers to both questions shows the difference between them. It emerges that about one-quarter — or to be more precise, 27 percent — of those who regarded Begin's move as right were not satisfied with it. Hence, it may be assumed — this was corroborated by the remarks of some of the people polled — that the members of this group are among Begin's staunchest supporters. However, in view of the prime minister's unfortunate situation and the bitter blows he was dealt — not only by his opponents, but also by his partners and colleagues — the members of this group understand him and approve of his move.

In any case, it turns out that the public neither approved nor disapproved of Begin's resignation; it was neither happy nor sad over it. As usual, the public was also split on this question, at least in the first days following the announcement about his intention to resign.

The second question examined by the special poll was designed to gauge public opinion on each of the three feasible possibilities that emerged on the Israeli political agenda: to reestablish a Likud government similar to the outgoing one but led by another man; to establish an alternative government led by the Alignment; to dissolve the Knesset and hold new elections. Following are the answers:

To reestablish the Likud government — 30 percent; to establish an alternative Alignment-led government — 12 percent; to hold new elections — 53 percent; abstained — 5 percent.

This means that over half of the adult Jewish population regards early Knesset elections as the most appropriate way to resolve the political crisis. It is highly likely that if the supporters of Likud government and those of an Alignment government were given the choice to either hold early elections or to entrust the premiership to the rival party, most of them would favor holding early elections. Actually, the wish to reshuffle the political cards through elections can be seen as an expression of the prevailing mood that reflects lack of confidence in the current political alignment. This mood is not new; it was discovered in earlier polls in June and even in February this year.

The situation as it is today: Only one out of eight persons favors an alternative government headed by the Alignment before elections are held.

Nine MK's Support National Unity Government

TA141608 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Nine Knesset members from the coalition and the opposition this evening announced that they would not support a narrowly-based government, but only a national unity government. Their announcement was released at the end of a meeting at the Knesset speaker's office. The meeting was attended by, among others, Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat and MK's Yiga'el Hurvitz, Drog Zeigerman, Menahem Hakohen, Yehezqel Zakay, and Arye Nehamkin. The Alignment representatives said that if the Alignment leaders were given the foreign and defense portfolios they would forego the premiership and the finance portfolio.

Knesset Committee Discusses Lebanon Situation

TA141112 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1030 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee's subcommittee on Lebanon held a discussion of the situation there this morning. Defense Minister Moshe Arens took part in the meeting and reported to the subcommittee on the latest developments in Lebanon. Our correspondent Moshe Hakohen reports that according to reports confirmed by Israeli sources, some Christian units which were sent to the Ash-Shuf Mountains refused to fight. The same sources said the Christians in Lebanon would like to make Israel fight instead.

More on Knesset Subcommittee

TA141614 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] In a briefing today before a subcommittee of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, it was stated that the Christians in the Ash-Shuf Mountains are plagued with a weak command and their main force, under the command of (Samir Ja'ja), retreated barely putting up a fight. (Ja'ja) is held responsible for the entrapment of thousands of Christian refugees at Dayr al-Qamar because he did not warn them that the Phalangists intended to abandon the area.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the subcommittee was told that the Druze maintain a permanent nucleus of 5,000 regular fighters and another 10,000 reservists. However, in practice, some 50,000 Druze fought with firearms and hand-to-hand combat weapons in the last few days. They were opposed by only 3,000 Phalangists.

Israeli sources note that it is now clear that several hundreds of unarmed people were massacred on both sides.

Arens Warns Syria Against Illusions in Lebanon

TA150929 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens last night warned the Syrians against deluding themselves in thinking that Israel will not be able to fight if attacked. He was speaking at an Artillery Corps rally in Rishon Leziyyon. Here is a report by our correspondent Meron Tzur:

[Begin recording] [Tzur] Defense Minister Moshe Arens addressed the Artillery Corps meeting very briefly last night, but he left no room for doubt when he said that last year there were too many arguments and demonstrations in Israel demanding that we go back home and get out of the Lebanese mess:

[Arens] However, anyone who has followed the past week's events in Lebanon cannot but be reminded yet again that what happens there could affect the physical well-being of each and every Galilee inhabitant, and that we must not go back to the international border before we are sure that there is an element behind us that is not hostile — preferably friendly — and that is able to impose order and make sure that there are no hostile operations against us from the area we will be leaving.

[Tzur] The defense minister's warning to the Syrians was unequivocal:

[Arens] The demonstrations may have created the impression to our northern neighbor that in the future we will no longer unite and withstand, or go out on the battlefield if attacked. Let them not entertain any illusions. Just as we have in the past, in the future too we will do everything that is necessary. All the people of Israel, from the cities and the villages, supporters of every party, will stand together against our enemies and defeat them. [end recording]

Arens, Haddad Agree on Additional Training
TA150541 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Major Sa'd Haddad's brigade is preparing for an accelarated and condensed training program as part of which the possibility of incorporating Haddad's men in additional security missions south of the Al-Awwali will be examined. This was agreed after a meeting held this week between Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Major Haddad. Here is a report from the north by our correspondent Hayim Hecht:

[Begin Hecht recording] When do we get out of here? This was the question which the defense minister was confronted with over and over again by IDF soldiers along the Al-Awwali line outposts. Mr Arens' response was: When the situation permits. Their quick interpretation convinced the soldiers that even in 5744 [Jewish year that has just begun], too, at least 40 entries in their calendars will bear the caption: Reserve duty in Lebanon.

The explosions that could be heard loud and clear north of the river during the defense minister's visit along the line showed that evidently no relief will come from that direction to make that prospect feasible.

Can any kind of development south of the river effect a substantial change in the situation within a span of mere months? The southern forces are the regional brigade headed by Maj Sa'd Haddad, along with the civilian guards stationed in the southern villages. One of the reasons why Arens visited the fortress in Marj 'Uyun was the dismay that Haddad made sure was directly conveyed over the last few weeks. The IDF is clipping my wings, Haddad argued, and I am not given any freedom of action; my operations are being curtailed. Are you sure your men are actually capable of undertaking additional missions and are sufficiently responsible, the defense minister inquired? The major replied: 100 percent. Minister Arens then decided: All right, let us then decide on a period of time and find out whether this is truly the case.

It was agreed that Haddad's forces will receive more training in the near future. Some of his men who had graduated from intensive command courses will be tried by tackling additional missions, and the speed of completing the new regional deployment under the major will be accelerated. Haddad was thus apparently pleased at having received the backing and support he needed, a military source told me, adding: We will undoubtedly check what his men are capable of. At this stage it is obvious that they cannot capture a hill. Nonetheless, the IDF officers emphasized: Haddad's men are carrying out extremely efficiently all the routine security missions imposed on them in southern Lebanon. [end recording]

Syria Said Planning Return of PLO Rebels to Beirut
TA141504 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 14 Sep 83 p 3

[Report by Arab affairs correspondent Shefi Gabay]

[Text] "The IDF has uprooted 'Arafat's men from Beirut, but the Syrian Army is now planning to return Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha] rebels, who are the most extremist of the Palestinian terrorists," three senior Phalangist leaders said in Tel Aviv yesterday in a meeting with Israeli journalists. The three arrived in Israel 2 days ago and have already conferred with Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche.

They said that the Syrian involvement in the ongoing war in Lebanon is obvious and that the Phalangist command has precise information indicating that Druze officers in the Syrian Army as well as As-Sa'iqah, members of the Palestinian military branch of the Syrian Army, as well as Abu Musa rebels and Iranian soldiers are taking part in the fighting in the Ash-Shuf. According to the Phalangist representatives, they intend to reach Beirut as fast as possible in order to reestablish their infrastructure there. They added that the Syrian intervention is also manifest in the large quantities of war material transferred to the leftist fighters at the front as well as by the heavy artillery cover given.

The most senior member of the delegation and a member of the leadership emphasized that it would be a mistake to think that a factional war is being waged now.

The representatives maintain that "the Christians today do not understand the U.S. position on Lebanon, and up to now we have enjoyed nothing from the Americans, but we believe that Israel is capable of doing a lot. This is the only country that can help the Lebanese."

They expressed great apprehension over the partioning of Lebanon into cantons, saying they would oppose the establishment of a Druze canton in the Ash-Shuf region. "The Lebanon mountains are Lebanon, and if they are cut off from the country, there will be no Lebanon." Right now, they contend, there are thousands of Palestinian terrorists affiliated with various organizations in the mountains, and recently the Al-Yarmuk unit of the two factions of Fatah also joined them. In addition to this, some 3,000 Iranian fighters have also reached the area.

Intelligence Chief on Terrorists in Beirut
TA141023 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 14 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] Interviewed in today's issue of *Bamahane*, Chief of IDF Intelligence Branch Major General Ehud Baraq says that some 1,000 armed PLO men, grouped in small squads, are in Beirut. Regarding Palestinian involvement in the recent battles in Lebanon, Maj Gen Baraq says: "The terrorists' military power has not been fully eliminated through the Peace for Galilee operation, and over the past 12 months we have seen thousands of terrorists in Al-Biqa', with their arms and equipment, plus some 1,000 terrorists gathered in small groups and armed only with their personal arms in Beirut."

Maj Gen Baraq also said that the assessment in the Intelligence Branch is that the Syrians are helping the Druze by firing sporadic artillery fire, but he said that to the best of his knowledge, no Syrian units or fighters in substantial numbers are participating in the fighting.

He does not believe that the Syrians would not [negative as published] accept Israel's control over southern Lebanon, and assessed that the Syrians will try to effect an Israeli withdrawal from all of Lebanon without Israel getting anything. They will therefore encourage hostile activity in the area held by the IDF and will try to invalidate the Israeli-Lebanese accord and even bring about its annulment.

Regarding the latest events in the Ash-Shuf, the intelligence chief said that the Druze victory in their fight against the Phalangists was no surprise to Israel and added that the Lebanese Army's weakness was likewise nothing new.

The Syrian success in increasing their influence in Lebanon without directly using their forces had been foreseen by the Intelligence Branch as one of the more feasible possibilities for the post-IDF- withdrawal era in the Ash-Shuf.

However, the chief of the Intelligence Branch said, the IDF had to choose between two bad alternatives, so it selected the one that seemed to be the only choice that dealt directly and immediately with the security interest.

Referring to the Phalangists' role, General Baraq said they had assessed things wrongly when they thought the IDF could be lured back into operating in Lebanon in full force.

Terrorists Establish Infrastructure
TA141448 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 14 Sep 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by Yosef Walter and Ilan Kfir]

[Text] The terrorists fighting alongside the Druze in the Ash-Shuf Mountains have begun establishing a permanent infrastructure in the area, security sources informed *Ma'ariv* last night.

The sources clarified that the Israeli Government has warned all the elements in Lebanon and has also explained to the U.S. Administration that the IDF would not tolerate any terrorist presence in the areas the IDF evacuated in Lebanon, adding that any attempt to violate the agreement reached would generate the proper reaction.

Israel has warned the Druze against continuing to collaborate with the PLO and attempting to attack Beirut. In secret contacts with Druze figures, Israel pointed out the gravity with which it views the belligerent trends of the Druze beyond the Ash-Shuf region. Israel has been holding its main contacts with the Druze sect's spiritual leaders, who have evinced dismay over the deterioration of the Druze struggle in the Ash-Shuf Mountains, which is evolving into an all-out war against Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's regime.

Israel has turned down Druze requests to extend aid to them in their fight against the Christians and has likewise rejected their requests to permit them to transfer forces from Syrian territory to the Ash-Shuf. Jerusalem is displeased because the Druze violated clear promises not to cooperate with the PLO.

Military sources told *Ma'ariv* last night that according to one estimate, there are presently between 1,000 and 1,500 terrorists in the Ash-Shuf Mountains who belong to Fatah and the rejectionist organizations. These terrorists had fought side by side with the Druze against the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army in the Ash-Shuf area. Judging by refugees' eyewitness reports, it appears that the terrorists had taken an active part in capturing Christian strongholds and in massacres in a number of Christian towns.

The sources emphasized that over the past few days, after the Druze and their allies had captured the Ash-Shuf area, the terrorists have begun setting up a permanent infrastructure in several places in that area. Their activity includes locating offices for their commands. The sources believe that the terrorists will try to locate their command posts in the Ash-Shuf Mountains. Although the Druze have been declaring that they will not allow the terrorists to return to the region, as a result of the close cooperation during the fighting, they will be forced to give in to the terrorists.

Israel has reacted with satisfaction to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's firm policy toward Syria and the forces operating in its behalf. Jerusalem believes that this policy could help the Lebanese Army's efforts to curb the other forces in the battle over Beirut.

Military Sources Deny Seizing Sham'un Palace
TA141646 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1555 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The Christian Voice of Lebanon Radio reported that an IDF force today crossed the deployment line on the Al-Awwali River and is at this moment concentrated at the palace of former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un in Sa'diya. Earlier, the radio reported that an IDF column of tanks and armored personnel carriers had crossed the Al-Awwali this morning in the direction of the coastal resort of Al-Jiyah, several kilometers north of the Al-Awwali River.

In a check conducted by our correspondent, Israeli military sources said that no IDF force whatsoever remains permanently beyond the Al-Awwali line. The sources also emphasized that no palace whatsoever anywhere in the Ash-Shuf area had been seized.

Spokesman Denies IDF Patrols North of Al-Awwali

TA150517 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Israeli liaison near Beirut has denied reports that the IDF has decided to carry out regular patrols some 20 to 25 km north of the Al-Awwali. He told our correspondent that in a meeting with foreign correspondents in Beirut he was asked to comment on this and explained that the IDF carries out such patrols close to the river. He refused to mention any specific distance.

IDF Soldier Killed by Bazooka Fire in Lebanon

TA150810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] IDF Corporal Nehemya Shar'abi, aged 49 from Ra'anana, was killed last night, and seven soldiers were wounded, six of them slightly, by bazooka fire directed from ambush at an IDF unit in the vicinity of Ma'rub, some 12 km east of Tyre. The IDF has launched a search of the area. A separate announcement will be made on the funeral. This has just been reported by the IDF spokesman.

U.S. Request To Bomb Lebanon Officially Denied

TA141301 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] A senior Israeli official has denied that Jerusalem turned down an American request that Israeli planes bomb Druze positions firing on the Marines in the Beirut area. The official said that Israel did not refuse such a request because there was no request for Israeli military action in the first place.

The official also said that Israel is trying to coordinate an intensive humanitarian action to aid the Christians besieged by the Druze in the town of Dayr al-Qamar. Reporter David Essing says the official stressed that Israeli policy is to safeguard Israel's security, adding, we are not in Lebanon to settle centuries-old disputes.

Talks Held With U.S. on Dayr-al Qamar Operation

TA141358 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 14 Sep 83 pp 1, 15

[Report by 'Oded Granot, Yosef Walter, and Menahem Rahat]

[Excerpts] Preliminary contacts to examine the possibility of a joint military operation by Israel and the United States to break the siege of Dayr al-Qamar have been underway over the last few days between Washington and Tel Aviv, in line with the White House decision to allow the Marines to call on aerial support from the 6th Fleet ships if attacked.

Ma'ariv has learned that the administration has informed Israel of its concern over the expected ramifications of the fall of Suq al-Gharb and Dayr al-Qamar to the Druze, the terrorists, and the Muslim leftists.

It looks as though the contacts regarding this Israeli- U.S. cooperation have not yet resulted in anything.

Menahem Rahat adds:

The UNIFIL command informed the Lebanese Government yesterday that the organization is refusing to respond to the Lebanese Government request to direct additional forces to help the tens of thousands of Christian refugees trapped in Dayr al-Qamar in the Ash-Shuf Mountains who are surrounded by Druze fighters on all sides.

This position of UNIFIL generated great anger and amazementt among Christian elements in Lebanon, who accused UNIFIL of ignoring the distress of the refugees, who are hungry for help on a humanitarian basis.

According to the testimony provided by the Lebanese Government and other elements, including journalistic reports, the predicament of the refugees in Dayr al-Qamar is extremely bad and getting worse day by day. Many of them are gathered in churches, eating meager meals and living under difficult sanitary conditions, with the danger of a massacre hovering over their heads.

U.S. Expresses 'Dismay' Over Lebanon Operations

TA141018 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 14 Sep 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpt] Washington — The United States has decided to permit the Marines to activate the U.S. Air Force in Lebanon in light of Israel's rejection of a U.S. appeal that its own air force be instructed to operate and silence the Ash-Shuf positions from which fire has been directed at the Marines.

It has been learned that there is dismay, primarily among U.S. Armed Forces circles, over the role Israel has been playing in Lebanon recently. The Americans complain that Israel has equipped the Druze with arms and information; some even argue that arms coming from Israel are being used against the Marines in the Beirut area.

Another charge raised against Israel is that it refuses to activate its Air Force to silence the fire that is showered upon the Marines and thereby ease the Lebanese Army's predicament. In view of the Israeli refusal, President Reagan has decided to permit the Marines to summon U.S. Air Force places from the aircraft carriers anchored opposite the Lebanese coast.

Denial of Arms Supply

TA141213 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Israel did not supply arms to the Druze. This was stated by the defense minister's adviser on communications and information. According to him, the reports published on this matter are not true.

Contacts on Lebanon Held in Washington

TA150552 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Excerpts] The United States believes that it will be possible to learn today whether its cease-fire plan for Lebanon is acceptable to the Syrians. Last night, Israel's Ambassador to Washington Me'ir Rosenne conferred with an aide to the U.S. secretary of state, and following that meeting, Israeli elements have expressed their assessment that the United States is not curtaling its support for the Israeli-Lebanese accord. Here is a report from Washington by Razi Barqay:

[Begin Barqay recording] The United States still believes it will be able to persuade Syria to accept a cease-fire in Lebanon and establish stability there. The U.S. plan, supported by Saudi Arabia, promises a token presence of the Lebanese Army in the Ash-Shuf, turning that area into a sort of Druze autonomy. The United States also supports a new structure for the central government in Lebanon involving an allocation of portfolios to Junblatt's men. Our research notwithstanding, we were unable to learn whether this entails the premiership, as the Druze have demanded every so often.

Israeli sources last night again strongly denied the charge that the United States is gradually evading [mitna'eret] the agreement reached and signed between Israel and Lebanon. They pointed to the warm statements made by Secretary of State Shultz last night in a closed meeting of the House of Representatives. Shultz said that Israel is our strongest and closest ally. The problem in Lebanon, he added, is not Israel. The source of that problem is Damascus.

Addressing correspondents last night, President Reagan himself again promised that the United States has no intention of talking to the PLO as long as, as he put it, the dream of wanting to throw Israel into the sea has not been shelved. The United States, the President said, will pursue its efforts to persuade Arab countries to follow in the footsteps of Egypt.

There were warm statements emanating from the White House, but they were nevertheless coupled by a reminder of the September initiative, the Reagan plan. [end recording]

Ambassador to U.S. Discusses Lavi Aircraft

TA150726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] Israel's ambassador to the United States, Me'ir Rosenne, has conferred with Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger over the Lavi aircraft. Our Washington correspondent reports that the State Department has promised to try to persuade the Pentagon to agree to allow U.S. industry's technological knowledge to be transferred to the Israel Aircraft Industries.

HA'ARETZ Commentary Bemoans Lebanon War

TA131636 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 13 Sep 83 p 11

[Commentary by Eliyahu Salpeter: "The Price of Withdrawal"]

[Text] The withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf Mountains and Beirut does not wipe out the mistake of the Lebanon war.

The decision to pull back to the Al-Awwali River does not gloss over the results of the fraudulent invasion — either for Israel or the inhabitants of Lebanon. It is impossible to unscramble the egg, even if it turns out that the egg was rotten, and in war one cannot say "sorry, my mistake" even if it turns out one was misled. All wars change the "status quo." Ending the war, and even returning to the earlier lines, cannot bring the dead back to life or reestablish the old state of affairs.

As soon as the Cabinet got rid of the Sharon-Eytan duo and realized that it had led Israel into a hapless adventure, it did well in deciding to withdraw, but those who approve of the withdrawal still should not delude themselves or others by believing that we have thus finished paying the price for the adventure.

The fact that Christians and Druze have been slaughtering each other for a millenium should have served as a warning to the Government of Israel not to try to "create an order" in Lebanon; there is no excuse for saying that what is now taking place in the territories we evacuated has nothing at all to do with us.

It would be better, our fervent attempt to erase the past notwithstanding, to try not to ignore the fact that in many respects our present predicament is far worse than it was prior to the invasion and before the withdrawal:

— Most of the "Christian chips" in Lebanon have been forfeited;

— Syria is gaining a more decisive status in Lebanon than it had before the war;

— We are losing our deterrence capability vis-a-vis Damascus, which may interpret our withdrawal as lack of a desire to fight at all;

— Even the logical aspect of viewing Israel as the U.S. regional ally has been questioned;

— The links between the Druze and the Palestinian terrorist organizations have been forged with results one can hardly imagine, not only in connection with our status in Lebanon, but in relations with the Druze population of Israel, too.

In order to view things in the right perspective, the three objectives — whose achievement or near attainability were what

Begin, Sharon, and partners used to justify the expansion of the Peace for Galilee Operation — were:

1) "Breaking the PLO." The terrorist organizations have become the partners and allies (at least temporarily) of the Druze in Lebanon; they are staging a mass return to the Beirut area, and perhaps even to Beirut itself. In the interviews he granted on the eve of the Jewish New Year, the chief of staff declared that "a new terrorist infrastructure in Lebanon may be established."

2) "Removing the Syrians." More than half of Syria's Army is in Lebanon. The Syrian artillery and supplies have become a pivotal element in tipping the scale in the battles around the Ash-Shuf and Beirut areas, and Damascus has shown that it is capable of not only preventing the establishment of an order in Lebanon that conflicts with its own interests, but that it is close to proving its ability to force an order there that it desires.

3) "Establishing a strong central Lebanese Government" which will be able to set up "proper neighborly relations with Israel." With the Al-Jumayyil government fighting on the outskirts of Beirut and "suspending" the diluted withdrawal agreement that still remains from Sharon's declarations on a peace agreement, the declarations Israeli ministers made less than a year ago sound like a grotesque empty joke.

Obviously Israel is not to blame for the fact that the Christians and Druze are killing women, old people, and children in the villages they capture from each other. However, it is doubtful whether the murders would now have reached the scope of mutual massacres were it not for the initial shocks absorbed by the forces by virtue of the IDF's entry and its subsequent with drawal, and that includes the return of Christian inhabitants, and particularly the introduction of the Phalangists into the Ash-Shuf region during the Sharon-Phalangist honeymoon.

Right now, Israel cannot do much directly to stop the internecine killings in the areas it withdrew from, but this does not lessen its responsibility to increase its political efforts in that direction. Yet it must be clear that the responsibility expected of a country in areas it evacuates is utterly different from the responsibility one could place on its shoulders for areas it never had any control over. The hypocrisy of the cries against withdrawal coming from those who have only recently demanded our withdrawal does not alter the fact that there truly is a difference between the two standards of responsibility.

The double standards behind other people's arguments may not ease the exceedingly unpleasant feelings with which we will have to live if a mass genocide is carried out now within earshot of the Al-Awwali River. There is no need for comparisons — incorrect as they may be — between Sabra and Shatila on the one hand and Bhamdun or Dayr al-Qamar on the other in order to comprehend how thin the hairline border between interference, presence, and responsibility is.

Just as by resigning Mr Begin did not eliminate his responsibility for what he did to Israel in Lebanon (and in the West Bank), the Government of Israel cannot, by drawing new lines on the map, ignore what happened and what is now happening north of the Al-Awwali River. It is not difficult to understand the Cabinet's desire (to the extent that there is such a thing as a Cabinet in Israel now) to act as though what is now happening in the Ash-Shuf Mountains or near Beirut no longer has anything to do with it: This is part of its attempt to erase from people's memory its responsibility for what it did in Lebanon last year. But even those who favor the withdrawal from Lebanon are under no obligation and need not free the Cabinet of its responsibility for the failure.

First, the Cabinet did not properly predict the outcome of the withdrawal: On the very day of the withdrawal, the explanation provided to the Israeli public was that after some fighting and changes to some lines, the fronts would stabilize and a new balance would be created between the Christians and the Druze. No member of the Cabinet had evidently anticipated the magnitude of the Christian collapse and the dimensions of the Syrian victory via Walid Junblatt.

Second, although it is true that the withdrawal was conducted with strict military planning, it nonetheless lacked political patience. The IDF, which is still suffering from what Arik Sharon inflicted upon it, wants first of all to return home and convalesce, to rehabilitate itself. However, the Cabinet should have made this possible in a way and fashion that would have limited the disintegration of Israel's political positions in Lebanon — a collapse whose end we apparently have not yet seen.

No man in his right mind would suggest at this juncture that the IDF return to Beirut and the Ash-Shuf Mountains. Yet this does not mean that the Cabinet, which was responsible for introducing Israel into the Lebanese quicksand, should not also be held accountable for the results of the way in which it began the withdrawal process.

ALGERIA

Bush Has Talks With Bendjedid, Other Leaders

LD142154 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN party, this afternoon at his office at the presidential headquarters received Mr George Bush, the U.S. vice president.

Afterward, the talks were expanded to embrace members of the two delegations. On the Algerian side: members of the Political Bureau, Rabih Bita, speaker of the People's National Assembly, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, foreign minister, members of the Central Committee, Abdelhamid Brahimi, planning and national development minister, Larbi Balkheir, secretary general of the presidency, and Al-'Ayyashi Yakir, Algerian ambassador in Washington. On the U.S. side: Michael Newlin, U.S. ambassador in Algiers, Admiral Murphy, chief of staff of the U.S. vice president, General Vernon Walters, roving ambassador, Donald Gregg, assistant to the vice president for national security affairs, and Peter Sebastian, director of North African affairs at the U.S. State Department.

Mr George Bush, U.S. vice president, previously had talks with Premier and member of the Political Bureau Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani. The talks dealt with important international issues and ways and means of strengthening economic and cultural cooperation between Algeria and the United States.

The talks were attended on the Algerian side by Brothers Abdelhamid Brahimi and Al-'Ayyashi Yakir, minister of planning and national development and Algerian ambassador to the United States, respectively, and Secretary General of the Premiership Takfali,and the Director of the European and North African section at the Foreign Ministry (Abdelkarim Feitour). On the U.S. side the talks were attended by the delegation accompanying Mr George Bush.

Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign affairs minister, late this morning had talks at the Foreign Ministry headquarters with U.S. Vice President George Bush,who is on a 3-day official visit to Algeria. On the Algerian side were Abdelhamid Brahimi, planning and national development minister, Haj Ben Abdelkader Azzouz, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, Al-'Ayyashi Yakir, Algerian ambassador to the United States, Nureddin Karroum, director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and (Abdelkarim Feitour), director of Europe and North African section at the same ministry. On the U.S. side the delegation accompanying Mr George Bush took part in the talks.

Bush Speech Reported

LD150900 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] U.S. Vice President George Bush yesterday spoke at Al-Awras hotel, expressing his pride at being in Algeria and satisfaction with the welcome accorded him. He referred to Algeria's independence, which was wrested through great struggle against foreign domination, and how Algeria has shown what can be achieved by one generation. Algeria, he said, is a pioneer for the nonaligned countries and is the spokesman which is always listened to in the name of just causes, which is characterized by wisdom and equality in regional and international affairs.

He stressed that his country accepts and respects the practice of real nonalignment, adding that the United States respects the truly nonaligned countries' opinions, though these are different from those of Washington. His country, he said, is convinced that in case of a crisis among the nonaligned countries, consultative work among the countries of the region would be the best guarantee against the internationalization of the regional dispute. He referred to the OAU as the organization capable of settling local disputes [word indistinct]. Referring to the recent rapprochement among the Maghreb countries, Mr Bush said that the United States always supports such efforts. Referring to the Middle East situation, he said that his country is coordinating with the countries concerned in the region to ensure Lebanon's safety and sovereignty. We shall to try to give our assistance, not impose our ideas, he added.

Economic relations between Algeria and the United States, he said, show that cooperation can be of mutual benefit to the different economic systems. Algeria knows how to use Western technology and at the same time preserve its independence and values and the nonalignment principle.

Algerian, Tunisian Transport Ministers Meet

LD141242 Algiers APS in English 1000 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Algiers, 14/09/83 (APS) — Mr Saleh Goudjil, CC member, minister of transport and fishing, and Mr Sadok Ben Jomaa, Tunisian minister of transport and communications, presided over the works of the meeting of the Algero-Tunisian joint commission over transport.

Taking the floor, the two ministers underlined the importance of this meeting for the development of transport between the two countries and the bilateral and the regional integration in the future. They also put forward the political framework in which the meeting of the sub-commission is being held.

Recalling the exchange of visits by President Chadli Bendjedid in Tunisia and President Habib Bourguiba in Algiers, the two ministers also laid down the big lines to enable the development and reinforcement cooperation in the field of transport. [sentence as received] In this framework, they agreed to visit on the priority to give to the frontier regions to consolidate the friendly relations between the two countries as the first cornerstone to wider cooperation.

They also expressed their desire to coordinate their efforts to overcome the obstacles which risk to hinder the common project by underlining the heavy responsibility of the high official of the two ministers to open large prospects of cooperation unfield [as received] of transport. The two ministers expressed their will to

coordinate their actions to unify their point of views in the international organisms charged of problems of transports. They underlined the importance for the two countries to intensify South-South cooperation in field of transport to increase exchanges between the developing countries.

Algerian, Swedish Foreign Trade Secretaries Confer

LD141127 Algiers APS in English 1015 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Algiers, 14/09/83 (APS) — Mr Ali O'Bouzar, state secretary to foreign trade, held yesterday a working session with Mr Charles Aberg, Swedish state secretary to foreign trade. During this meeting, Mr Ali O'Bouzar dealt with his Swedish counterpart the state of commercial and economic [as received] between the two countries as well as the means to use to develop them.

The two sides, also, in the (?expectation) of the fourth session of Algero-Swedish joint commission which will take place on the 19 coming September, proceed to the exchange of views over the constraint to give for a cooperation mutually advantageous for the two countries. [sentence as received] Moreover, Mr Curt Bastrom, Swedish minister of transport and communications, arrived in Algiers. During his stay, the Swedish minister will have a series of talks with Algerian minister of posts and telecommunications and will visit the factory of telephonic centrals in Tlemcen (west of Algeria).

Bendjedid Cancels 'Id al-Adha Festival

LD150406 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The presidency has issued the following statement:

Next Saturday will fall on the first anniversary of the Sabra and Shatila massacre in which scores of hundreds of the sons of the defenseless Palestine fell victim to the hand of treachery. That massacre was the most truthful expression of Zionist intentions toward the Arab nation. To immortalize the anniversary of this tragedy, glorify the martyrs and affirm Algeria's commitment to the fateful issue of the Arab homeland, President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, has decided to cancel all official celebrations of the blessed 'Id al-Adha festival at national and regional level and at Algerian diplomatic mission abroad. The celebration of the festival will be confined to performances of religious rites.

LIBYA

JANA: George Bush 'Misleading' Public

LD142350 Tripoli JANA in English 1407 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijah 7, Sept 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S. vice-president, George Bush, has alleged that the U.S.A. was interested in finding a peaceful settlement in northern Africa. Such allegations by Reagan's deputy is part of the U.S. political blackmailing and confusion because America has never been interested in peaceful settlements. On the contrary, her only concern, was, always, and still is, war and the militarization of the area. The sending of her fighter and spying aircraft to Chad and her fleet to the Libyan shores, is a clear evidence to the U.S. military attitude to the area.

Reagan's administration has never done anything in service of peace and security. The U.S. actions in areas like North Africa, Central America, Latin America, and the Arab region have always been criminal and terroristic.

With these allegations and lies, George Bush will not be able to take us by surprise because it has become very clear that the U.S. policies, which are based on provocation and sea piracy, do not contribute at all to world peace and security. Bush'sstatement will neither convince the people of the world nor deceive them. The U.S. war machine is still being used savagely against the Lebanese Moslems and progressive forces and it also threatens the Libyan Arab people. Despite Bush's intentional misleading way, in the end, the U.S. Administration has, without doubt, proved that it is the one that instigates war, terrorism, and chaos in the world.

JANA: U.S. To Supply Aircraft to Chad's Habre

LD142240 Tripoli JANA in English 0952 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Washington, Dhulhijah 7, Sept 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The U.S.A. is continuing in her interference in Chad's internal affairs. She announced her intention to supply renegade Habre forces with C-130 aircraft. The aircraft will be controlled and manned by Zairean pilots and soldiers. There are 2500 Zairean soldiers fighting in Chad. This is the second C-130 that the administration is offering to Habre. The administration allocated 25 million dollars of military equipment for Habre.

JANA on Numayri's 'Patching Up' Arab Differences

LD142356 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijah 7, Sept 14, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Khartoum Radio broadcast today that Numayri will start today a diplomatic initiative in an attempt to patch up differences among Arab countries. His roving ambassador, 'Umar Muhammad Yassin, is expected to start a tour of a number of Arab countries.

Numayri, is trying to break through his isolation because of the pressure on him, internally and abroad, is building up. Internally, the popular uprising against his policies is rapidly growing. And abroad, the regime's image is deteriorating because of its support for Camp David and his strong relation with the Zionists and Husni Mubarak and previously Anwar as-Sadat.

He is the one who widely opened Sudan for the Rapid Deployment Forces and the one who cannot make any decision without a prior permission from his master, the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum. And because he is a well known opportunist, he is trying to improve his image under the pretext of patching up the Arab differences.

MOROCCO

Vice President Bush Ends Visit, Makes Statement

LD141315 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Fes, Sept 14 (MAP) — American Vice President George Bush left Fes on Tuesday for Algiers at the end of a two day state visit to Morocco during which he held talks with King Hassan II. In a statement he made upon departure, Mr Bush recalled the talks he had with the sovereign, indicating that they had covered a number of matters of mutual interest on the international and regional scene.

"My conversations with Prime Minister Bouabid, Foreign Minister Boucetta, and other members of the government likewise provided opportunities for a highly useful exchange of views", Mr Bush said,adding, "I took particular interest in his majesty's views on regional rapprochement and the steps now being taken toward resolution of the vexing question of the Western Sahara. The United States, like other international observers, shares the hope that an equitable solution will be implemented in the very near future in accordance with the resolution of the Organization of African Unity.

The American vice president further stated that although his stay had been brief, he had been impressed by the diversity of participation in the political process. "Morocco's multi-party system is alive and well. Under the guidance of his majesty, democratic processes, consistent with Moroccan culture, are now at work to build a better future for the Moroccan people," Mr Bush said.

Regarding the content of talks he held with King Hassan II, Mr Bush said they focused on a number of matters with a special emphasis on the Middle East crisis, adding that the sovereign was stepping up extensive efforts to settle this crisis. "We have also evoked the Sahara issue and the incident of the South-Korean aircraft. I explained my government's and President Reagan's views on the international economic situation and on the Middle East problem," the vice president said, adding that he had also reaffirmed his country's friendship toward Morocco and its commitment to assist this African country in its efforts for progress and prosperity. It is to be recalled that after his three day stay in Algeria, Mr Bush will also visit Tunisia.

Social Security Agreement Signed With Romania

LD142338 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Minister of Labor and National Training Arsalane el-Jadidi and Romanian Labor Minister Maxim Berghianu this morning at the ministry attended a ceremony for signing an administrative agreement in connection with the social security agreement regarded an implementation of the agreement signed by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and his Romanian opposite number last month in Rabat. The minutes of the agreement was signed by directors of the Moroccan and Romanian social security organizations. Mr Jadidi expressed Morocco's satisfaction with the excellent standard of relations between Morocco and Romania, adding that this agreement affirms the two countries' desire to further deepen and consolidate cooperation in line of the wishes of the leaders of the two countries, His Majesty King Hassan II and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu. Mr Maxim Berghianu also expressed satisfaction with the standard of relations between the two countries, affirming his country's readiness to cooperate with Morocco in all fields.

SUDAN

First Vice President Returns From Tunis

JN141130 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 14 Sep (SUNA) —First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib and his accompanying delegation returned to Khartoum last night following a 4-day visit to Tunis. The first vice president described the results of his visit as successful. He said that the Tunisian officials have shown an understanding of Sudan's political and economic roles in the region and the Arab world. He added that he found that the Tunisians are concerned about cooperation with Sudan in all spheres in the interest of the two peoples.

Brings Numayri Bourguiba Message

JN141500 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Khartoum, 14 Sep (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has received a written message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba dealing with the current political situation in both the Arab and African arenas. First Vice President Major General 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, who has returned from a 4-day official visit to Tunisia, delivered the message to the president. The first vice president said that he briefed Numayri on the outcome of his visit to Tunisia, which covered political, economic, and social issues.

Sudanese Refuse Libyan Order To Go To Chad

JN141959 Khartoum SUNA in English 1845 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Khartoum, Sept. 14. SUNA —"I went to Libya to collect money and I got a bullet in the chest instead," 'Abbas Adam Ibrahim this evening told SUNA newsmen. 'Abbas Adam is a Sudanese national from Jazirat Aba. He is 35 years old and left for Libya early this year across Sudan's western borders.

Upon arrival in the Libyan territories, he was herded to Al-Kufrah Camp and was asked to leave for Chad. He said the commissioner of Al-Kufrah town and a lieutenant called Fayez visited them in the Al-Kufrah agricultural settlement scheme. Adam said he found himself with 180 other Sudanese nationals penned in a hangar. A group of Libyan soldiers ordered them to leave for the Chadian battle front, but all the 180 Sudanese nationals disobeyed the orders.

Adan said he and his colleagues collected iron rods, reappeared, then dashed at them. Two Sudanese nationals were shot dead and Adam was seriously wounded in the chest. He was taken to Al-Kufrah Hospital where he saw many Sudanese and Libyans hopitalized mercenaries. [sentence as received] Adam infiltrated

to Libya through the Sudanese western borders on camel back. He was given a very hostile reception upon arrival in Libyan territories. He said his hopes of collecting money evaporated under the desert blazing sun and the Libyan soldiers' heavy blows. A friend of his called Hassan Mursal Ibrahim died in Al-Kufrah Hospital, but Adam finally managed to escape and arrived here last Thursday.

New Penal Code on Political, Economic Crimes

JN141923 Khartoum SUNA in English 1840 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Khartoum, Sep 14 -SUNA — The new Sudan penal code for 1983 has specified death sentence, life imprisonment, a prison term, and confiscation of property to any who may commit, instigate, or assist in any action with intent to weaken the Constitution, destroy authority, or the political organization,or wage war against the country militarily, economically, or politically. Similar sentences are also meted out to those who may conspire or collude with a foreign country with a view to carrying out hostile acts against the country militarily, economically, politically, or diplomatically.

Any person who may be in possession of arms for the purpose of using them to attain unauthorized political ends or publishes or broadcasts falsehood against the country's internal situation, economy, or the state's reputation will be liable to the same sentence mentioned above. All who may engage in espionage or treason are also liable to death penalty, life imprisonment, or confiscation of property. Similarly, he who offers himself for reasons of money to a foreign nation with the intent to harm the state will get the same sentence. The same sentence may be handed out to economic saboteurs and those who engage in trade with countries with which the Sudan may be in war or hostile to or he who may aid in such actions directly or indirectly.

TUNISIA

Joint Statement on Sudanese Vice President's Visit

LD141523 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 13 Sep 83

[Text] A joint Tunisian-Sudanese statement was published yesterday evening following the Sudanese vice president's visit to Tunisia. It says in particular that the two sides expressed their determination to develop Tunisian-Sudanese relations in all fields, especially in the fields of education, culture, information, trade, maritime transport, and industrial cooperation in an endeavor to achieve integration between the two brotherly countries. Within this sphere, the two sides agreed to form a joint research group to study the scope of integration between the two countries in the field of phosphates and their derivatives, and stressed the need to intensify contacts between the two countries' technicians and officials and to continue efforts to bolster cooperation in all fields.

The two sides reviewed the current situation on the Arab arena. They affirmed, in particular, their determination to continue efforts to consolidate Arab solidarity and to unite ranks so as to face the Zionist enemy's plans and support the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO, for regaining their usurped rights and establishing their national independent state on their own land. The two sides reaffirmed that a just and lasting Middle East solution cannot be achieved without recognition of the Palestinians' legitimate rights.

The two sides discussed the situation in Lebanon. They expressed their deep concern at the grave developments in the Lebanese arena and strongly denounced the continuation of the Zionist occupation of parts of Lebanese soil, and blamed Israel for inciting sedition among the Lebanese with the aim of destroying the Lebanese people and territorial unity.

The two sides expressed their deep concern at the multiplicity of regions of tension in the world and the possible complications in international relations to which they could lead. They expressed their great sorrow over the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war and their hope that a response to repeated appeals aimed at stopping the war and resolving the dispute through negotiation in accordance with the principles of international law would be made. They also expressed their concern at the continuation of foreign intervention in Afghanistan, an Islamic state belonging to the nonaligned countries' group. The two sides reviewed the world economic situation and stressed their determination to endeavor to realize a new economic order, one more just and equal, taking into consideration the legitimate interests of the developing countries. They renewed their support for Arab- African solidarity and the need to support and develop it in view of it's being a model of cooperation among the countries of the South.

His Excellency 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib extended an invitation to Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali to visit the Democratic Republic of Sudan. He accepted the invitation with thanks. The date will be fixed later.

More on Joint Statement

LD141622 Tunis TAP in French 1400 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] On the situation in Lebanon, the two parties reiterate their attachment to the Arab nature of Lebanon, to its national unity,and to its territorial integrity, and ask for the total withdrawal of Zionist forces from all Arab occupied territories in accordance with what is advocated by the international community.

On the African plane, the two sides express their support for the struggle of the Namibian and South African people and condemn the repeated aggressions of the racist regime of Pretoria against its neighboring African countries and the strategic alliance between Israel and this regime which aims at endangering the security and stability of African countries.

The two sides, the communique adds, have also expressed their concern over the developments in Chad and agreed that the foreign intervention in the internal affairs of this brother country is likely to aggravate the situation in Chad and in the whole area. The two sides urged the OAU to work to stop the deterioration of the situation in Chad with a view to preserving the noble principles advocated in its charter.

WESTERN SAHARA

'Mission' Comments in Paris on SDAR Visit

LD141109 Algiers APS in English 1008 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Paris, 14/09/83 (APS) — The urgency and priority of the Saharan problem are the matter of the international consciousness, a mission of jurists composed of French Masters Francis Jacob and Jean Louis Weil and Argentinian Master Leandro Despouy said in a press conference in Paris at the end of a several-day-visit in SDAR-occupied territories and on the eve of the meeting of the OAU implementing committee and Mr George Bush's, U.S. vice-president, visit.

The mission, which "concern was to establish whether the Saharan state had efficient forms of working in spite of the occupation of its territories," noted, following an inquiry, a very advanced democratic form in SDAR and a proper communal life attesting the existence of a Saharan nation. The international mission of jurists noted on the spot the havoc of what Master Jean Louis Weil called "the international of [as received] death."

During their mission in the liberated territories, the jurists noted the consensus of a whole people over the Polisario Front struggle, this "Polisario Front which represents the struggle of all," they said. Considering the established fact and the "people's homogeneity over the Polisario," the jurists, especially Master Leandro Despouy estimed that "the referendum will only represent the recognition of the nation and the Saharan state." Master Despouy also urged "the authentic and free implementation of OAU resolutions."

Actually, the mission considers that jurists, in application of fundamental principles of the international law, and before such a situation, cannot but join the call for the immediate implementation of international UN and OAU resolutions, particularly decisions taken by the 19th OAU summit aimed at "organizing and achieving conditions of a real negotiation and a true consultation of the Saharan people by referendum."

They further established the very inadequacy of the international aid to the Saharan people and expressed their surprise to the courage and considerable efforts made by this state's authorities so as to put SDAR structures into motion. "I have found out a whole reality that an international jurist should not ignore at the beginning of his mission" and "I have been frightened by my 'ignorance,'" Master Jean Louis Weil said. The jurist was also surprised by "the will for autonomy" of the Saharan people, who established a "very particular and very engaging democratic form."

"The geographic delimitation of Western Sahara, the political structures that Polisario Front is implementing, as well as the language, are such constitutive elements of a state that we have ascertained," he added. "All the observations made during the mission enable us to conclude the existence of a nation and a republic working in the framework of institutional, administrative,and political structures constituting a state of right," their report concluded.

ETHIOPIA

USSR's Rashidov Meets Mengistu, Visits Mill

EA150226 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Provisional Military Administration Council and COPWE chairman and commander in chief of the revolutionary armed forces, today met and held talks with Comrade Sharif Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo, member of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party. In a ceremony held at the COPWE office, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam briefed Comrade Rashidov on the development of the revolution of the broad masses of Ethiopia and on the existing relations between Ethiopia and the USSR. In another development,Comrade Rashidov this afternoon visited the Akaki textile mills [in the suburbs of Addis Ababa]. On arrival, Comrade Rashidov was welcomed by Comrade Tekle Egzie Tekie, general manager of the mill.

Armed Forces Chief Departs for USSR, CSSR

EA150854 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1900 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Comrade Brigadier General Gebreyes Wolde Hana, head of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Political Department and COPWE Central Committee member, left for Moscow this morning for a working visit to the USSR and Czechoslovakia. Prior to his departure at the head of a six-man delegation of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Armed Forces,Comrade Brigadier General Gebreyes said that the visit will enable him to gain working experience from the Soviet and CzechoslovakianArmed Forces and to look thoroughly into the political and ideological structures of their forces. The results of the visit to the USSR and Czechoslovakia will have a great contribution to the activities that are being carried out as we approach our party's formation, Comrade Brig-Gen Gebreyes added. The delegation's working tour is for 10 days.

SOMALIA

Romania's Nicolae, Samantar Discuss Cooperation

EA141647 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] First Vice President Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar this morning received at the Presidency Romanian Deputy Premier M. Nicolae and his delegation which is currently visiting the country. The reception was attended by SDR Second Vice President Brigadier General Hussein Kulmie Afrah, adviser to the minister of national planning, Challe (Yusuf) Ali Osman, and other leaders. Challe Samantar and Mr Nicolae discussed the strengthening of existing relations and cooperation between the two countries. Mr Nicolae thanked Mr Samantar for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation wherever they went in Somalia. At another function talks were held between the SDR and the Socialist Republic of Romania on promotion of cooperation between the two countries, reports our SONNA correspondent. The talks centered on cooperation in the fields of livestock development, fisheries, industries, and particularly on farming. The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere.

Mohamed Ali Samantar Addresses APU Delegation

EA141553 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Excerpt] The first Somali Democratic Republic vice president, Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar, today stressed the need for more intergration between African countries in order to strengthen closer cooperation. Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samantar received at the presidency the African Parliamentary Union [APU] Executive Committee delegations who participated in the just-ended Twelfth APU Executive Committee. He told them that the African Continent needs peace in order to exploit the resources found in the soil.

The vice president also said that there is a desperate need to solve communications problems among the African people of the continent in order to foster culture and heritage among the African people. Challe Mohammad Ali Samantar told the APU Executive Committee delegates that the APU has to formulate solutions to the problems aflicting the African people today, most of which are inherited from the colonial governments. The first vice president told the participants to the APU meeting, which represented twelve countries, to convey his greetings to their parliaments and people. Challe Samantar told the delegations that they and the people of Africa and their parliaments have a duty to bring development to Africa.

The Nigerian head of the delegation, (Tubo Niol Pope Manuel) thanked the vice president on behalf of the APU delegations for the cordial welcome accorded them in the Somali Democratic Republic. Mr (Pope Manuel) emphasized the need for more practical cooperation between the APU and the Arab world so as to end communications problems. The Nigerian head of delegation also stressed the need for urgent measures to solve the refugee problems in Africa which have caused untold sufferings. Mr (Pope Manuel) added that steps should be taken to end communication, economic, and other related problems.

TANZANIA

Government Ready To Reestablish E. Africa Community

AB141640 Paris AFP in English 1625 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Dar es Salaam, Sept. 14 (AFP) — Tanzanian Prime Minister Edward Sokoine said today that Tanzania is ready to re-establish the defunct East African Community provided that its former partners, Kenya and Uganda, are also prepared to do so. He told a 17-member Royal Defence College team from Britain that the community would help generate smooth handling of problems facing various sectors of common interest to East Africa. He said Tanzania's stand was unity, adding "the East African heads of state are people of calibre who can bring about the community, but the desire to do so must be common."

Mr Sokoine said Britain, the former colonial ruler of the three states, could help bring them together because of its influence in the area.

Recently the Tanzanian prime minister spoke of the need to normalise relations between Kenya and Tanzania, which have been bad since the collapse of the community in 1977 and the closure of their common border. Mr Sokoine stressed that "this does not mean there is enmity between Kenya and Tanzania," but said the two countries can establish liaison offices as a first step towards normalisation of relations. Relations between Tanzania and Uganda are good and the two countries established a joint cooperation commission this year.

CAMEROON

Biya Elected Chairman of National Union

AB141850 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The head of state, His Excellency Paul Biya, has been elected chairman of the Cameroon National Union [CNU] Party. President Biya was elected by acclamation at 1135 this morning by the second extraordinary congress of the party which opened in Yaounde today. Our staff man, George Tani, has details:

The head of state, His Excellency Paul Biya, remarked that popular appeals for the convening of the congress had a double significance. First, the congress, coming at a crucial moment in the country's political history, reflects the Cameroonian people's determination to remain the masters of their history and destiny. Second, the head of state noted that general consensus for for convening the congress is eloquent proof of the collective conviction that the Cameroon National Union Party is the melting pot which provides all the means, inspiration, and dynamism to face the challenges of history.

The head of state expressed his personal conviction that the CNU Party remains the vital mobilizer and legimate hope of all Cameroonians and called on each delegate to contribute democratically and patriotically to its total success.

Speaking earlier, the president of the Nfungui section of the party, Emma Basile, reaffirmed the wishes of Cameroonians as contained in recent motions of support to have President Paul Biya at the head of the party.

Mr Emma Basile described the masses' support for President Paul Biya as another mark of the political maturity of Cameroonians and their profound commitment to national concord and solidarity. He condemned those who nourished the ambition to capture power and the nation for selfish interests and those who are imbued with divisive tendencies, saying these diabolic ambitions will be thwarted by reinforced national cohesion rallied around President Paul Biya.

Mr Emma Basile reassured the head of state of earlier assertions and I quote: "Cameroonians are people of confidence. We give you our confidence and you have our confidence, full support, and fidelity to govern Cameroon in rigor, efficacy, and integrity."

Delegates, observers, and guests alike are now converging on the conference center for an opening and closing session of the congress after the election this morning of President Paul Biya to the chairmanship of the party.

The newly elected chairman of the party will offer a reception tonight to mark the end of the second extraordinary congress of the party.

CHAD

Soumaila Concerned About Current Lull

AB141750 Paris AFP in French 1609 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 14 Sep (AFP) — The Chadian Government of President Hissein Habre seems to be increasingly worried over the freeze in the present situation in Chad and sees the external efforts for negotiations as a means for Libya to create an irreversible situation. "The negotiations and the speeches enable the Libyans to strengthen their position in the north of Chad and to embark on the annexation of the region they are occupying," Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat said on Wednesday.

"In several months," Mr Soumaila believes, "Libya, which is practicing a policy of occupying Chad in stages, will reduce its military installations and will leave mercenaries on the spot to create a fiction." According to the Chadian minister, if no solution is found to ease the situation, "we are heading for a fait accompli as happened in the case of the Aouzou Strip, a region in northern Chad next to Libya which has been occupied by that country since 1974. On this issue, Mr Soumaila reaffirmed that the Chadian Government is prepared to "submit the case of the Aouzou Strip to an international organization such as the International Court of Justice and to accept its verdict."

The minister went on to say that Libyans must, however, evacuate the territories they are occupying in Faya-Largeau (north) and Fada (east).

An ad hoc OAU committee was set up in 1977 to try to settle the dispute between Chad and Libya over the Aouzou Strip, which both countries are claiming. This committee was to meet in early September in Libreville but this meeting did not take place.

"Libya will never give up its ambition to annex Chad," Mr Soumaila also said. According to him, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi represents "a danger not only for Chad but also for all of Africa."

Mr Soumaila also pointed out that in the field, the military situation has been calm since the fighting which took place on 2 and 6 September. Apart from clashes in early September, a 1-month status quo has prevailed in the military situation since the arrival of French troops of the "Manta" operation.

Predicts Attack on Koro Toro

JN141107 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Njamena, Sept 14, (SUNA) — CHAD said a column of Libyan troops was monitored moving southward where the government [has] positions stationed at Koro Toro 600 km north of here. Information minister Soumaila Mahamat has predicted a Libyan offensive against the government forces at Koro Toro axis.

Meanwhile a communique released by the Chadian Embassy in Paris said the Libyan Forces at (Cheyalia) 100 km south the oasis town of Faya-Largeau have ordered to move in the Koro Toro bound [sentence as received]

Koro Toro is an area controlled by the government forces north the defense line dividing between the government troops in the south and Libyan backed rebels in the north. The defense line had been drawn by the French troops last month.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Meets Senegalese Minister, Malian Envoy

AB142035 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state, this morning received in audience two foreign dignitaries. They are Ibrahima Fall, Senegalese minister of universities, and His Excellency Siratagou Ibrahima Cisse, Malian ambassador to our country with residence in Abidjan. The audience took place at the presidential palace and were attended by Foreign Affairs Minister Arba Diallo. At the end of the audience with Capt Sankara, Ibrahima Fall, Senegalese minister of universities, made the following statement to newsmen:

[Begin Fall recording] As I told you on my arrival yesterday in the Upper Voltan capital, I was carrying a message from President Abdou Diouf, the Senegalese head of state, to Capt Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR and head of state. This message was on cooperation between our two countries, on friendship, and on the solidarity between our two governments and our peoples. It was also on cooperation in our West African subregion. President Abdou Diouf, through me, expressed to President Thomas Sankara his fraternal and friendly feelings as well as his total readiness to strengthen bilateral and multilateral cooperation in West Africa. [end recording]

His Excellency Siratagou Ibrahima Cisse, Malian ambassador to our country, also gave the following statement to the press:

[Begin Cisse recording] First of all, I would like to thank you for giving me this good opportunity to address the press. I would first like to sincerely thank Upper Voltan President Thomas Sankara, who was kind enough to receive me only a few hours after my arrival here. I would also like to take this opportunity to tell you that, although I am accredited to Upper Volta with residence in Abidjan, I am arriving from Bamako where President Moussa Traore asked me to deliver a message of friendship and fraternity to his brother and friend Capt Thomas Sankara. The message is generally on the strengthening of ties of cooperation and the secular links existing between Mali and Upper Volta.

I take this opportunity to tell you that the new Upper Volta and Mali are engaged in a process which will inevitably lead to the strengthening of secular relations and to improving cooperations between our two countries. I also take this opportunity to stress that our two leaders, Capt Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR, and President Moussa Traore, president of the Democratic Union of Malian People, the Upper Voltan and Malian Governments, and our two peoples in general have since the 4 August events resolutely engaged in the only struggle that is worth fighting for, the struggle for development, the struggle for strengthening the secular friendship linking our two friendly peoples. This is the message that President Moussa Traore asked to deliver to his brother and friend President Sankara. I would to refer to a statement by Socrates, a Greek philosophor, who said: There are no favorable winds for someone who does not know his direction. However, in regard to Mali and the new Upper Volta — I mean the Upper Volta of 4 August — we know where we are going and there will be favorable winds. [end recording]

GHANA

ROK Minister, Delegation Arrive 14 September

AB142145 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] A special delegation from the Republic of Korea is in Ghana on a good-will visit. It is headed by the minister of government administration, Mr Pak Chan-kung. The delegation will,among other things, deliver a special message from President Chon Tu-Hwan to the chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council.

Speaking to newsmen on arrival in Accra today, Mr Pak Chon-kung noted that South Korea has been a long-standing ally of Ghana and the visit is to strengthen the cordial relations between them. He hoped his talks with the government would benefit the two sides. The delegation has paid a similar visit to the Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, and Niger.

NIC Reveals Details of Cocoa Board Scandal

AB141550 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Newsreel]

[Text] The chairman of the National Investigations Committee [NIC], Mr C.K. Mawuenega, has revealed some of the ways in which some staff of the CMB[Cocoa Marketing Board] managed to enrich themselves at the expense of farmers and the nation. Mr Mawuenyega was addressing a news conference in Accra on the findings of the NIC following inquiries into the operations of the CMB. Georges Dewonu has come out with these details:

The performance of the cocoa industry is always a sensitive area closely monitored by successive governments. It is Ghana's most important industry since it is the source of the country's largest revenue and foreign exchange earner. It is, therefore,closely monitored in its performance by the international community as well. Notorious malpractices have constantly featured in the operations of the Ghana CMB and in the PNDC's [Provisional National Defense Council] efforts to rule out malpractices which undermine the country's economy, the NIC is inquiring into the malpractice in the cocoa industry under the CMB.

Certain appalling revelations have been made during the investigations and the NIC called the news conference today to make public some of the intrigues prevailing in the CMB. The chairman of the NIC, Mr C.K. Mawuenyega, addressed the newsmen who called at Parliament House in Accra for the event. The chairman pointed to an area of notorious malpractice within the CMB at the siding [as heard] level. This is the clever manipulation of weighing scales by a produce clerk whereby he underweighs the cocoa to the detriment of the farmer. Mr Amwuenyega said through this process the produce clerk realizes surplus cocoa which he in turn resells to the CMB and pockets the proceeds. Not only that, in the process of sampling and grading the cocoa, the sacks are punched with horns and some beans are siphoned out for inspection. This is another field where some CMB staff are exploiting to their advantage. On this practice, Mr Mawuenyega dilated on the harm it has done:

[Begin Mawuenyega recording] Another criminal act with our cocoa is what has been popularly known as horning. [as heard] Criminal horning is the process whereby cocoa beans are extracted from sealed bags and resold to the board. This criminal activity, which benefits siding clerks and depot keepers and their accomplices, occurs at the sidings and the depots. Presently, six officials of the CMB, including Johnson Bonus and Samuel Kwaku Yeboa, both depot clerks in Kumasi, are in custody awaiting judicial action in respect of this offense.

Altogether, over 1/2 million cedis is involved in this criminal deal. In one such horning operation at Asolwa shed 13 in Kumasi, as many as 125 bags of cocoa were horned off. This has resulted in serious abuses of the akuafo [farmers] check system which was designed to minimize the fraud and cheating of the past by unscrupulous CMB officials and their collaborators.

Finally, the NIC is investigating the payment previously described as ex-gratia awards, supplemental payment, and fluctuation payment totaling over 11 million cedis made in June 1983 to contractors who were expected to have completed CMB projects in 1978. [end recording]

In the present revolution, Mr Mawuenyega added, the NIC will upturn all stones in its path to eventually wipe out corrupt practices, exploitation in its various forms, abuse of power not to the benefit of Ghana's economy. The NIC will accordingly pursue all such cases and expose their perpetrators.

CMB,WDC, Union Frustrate Cocoa Board Changes

AB142150 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] While Workers Defense Committees [WDC] and unions in certain institutions have sought the restructuring and cleaning up of corruption and maladministration, those in certain subsidiaries of the Cocoa Marketing Board [CMB] seem to have tried very hard to frustrate the restructuring exercise in the cocoa industry. In the latter part of last year, the Provisional National Defense Council [PNDC] appointed a committee to study and draw up a new structure for the smooth running of the cocoa industry under the CMB. A Ghana Broadcasting Corporation investigation has found out that in January this year, a document purporting to be a resolution of workers of the CMB and addressed to the chairman of the PNDC demanded that the restructuring committee be dismantled and its work stopped. The purported workers' resolution described the restructuring exercise as an external interference and demanded that the CMB be allowed to operate as it had been up to then.

The workers, who were believed to be manipulated by vested interests, threatened that they had forcibly terminated the work of the restructuring committee and had unilaterrally and arbitrarily revoked all appointments and decisions made by the committee. In spite of the threats by so-called workers, the restructuring committee's work was not stopped. However, there were instances of several attempts by the WDC, Trade Union

Congress [TUC], and the senior staff association to frustrate the work of other committees whose activities related to the restructuring exercise.

In one dramatic case, a WDC understandably concocted allegations of illegal sale of cocoa bags against a temporal caretaker directorate to the body's buying division. Meanwhile, the National Investigations Committee has found the three-men caretaker directorate innocent. Observers, however, have noted that the tactic of false allegations were meant to confuse the PNDC about the integrity of people it had appointed to streamline affairs in the cocoa industry. By so doing, the staff opposed to the restructuring would delay the exercise while at the same time protect themselves or others from exposures of corruption.

One official falsely accused of corruption observed that the attitude of the current WDC and union at CMB to cover up malpractices should disqualify them from leading the workers in the cocoa industry. Another observed that corruption and connivance with corruption were very entrenched among CMB staff. Speaking in what may seem like an extreme position, the official suggested that the entire executive of the WDC and TUC of the CMB be dismissed from their leadership position for failing to defend the interests of farmers and the institution itself.

NIGERIA

Shagari Receives Message From Kenya's Moi

AB121615 Lagos NAN in English 1400 GMT 12 Sep 83

[Text] Abuja, Sept 12 (NAN) — President Shehu Shagari today in Abuja received a special message from his Kenyan counterpart, Mr Daniel arap Moi, according to official release from the State House. The message, which was delivered by a two-man delegation led by the Kenyan high commissioner to Nigeria, Mr B.A. Kiplagat, contained among other things, an invitation for the president to attend the 20th anniversary celebrations of Kenya independence in December. Mr arap Moi congratulated President Shagari on his reelection pointing out that it was a re-affirmation of Nigeria's confidence in his leadership.

Replying, President Shagari also congratulated President Moi on his re-election in the recent presidential elections in Kenya. He said that the looked forward to a continued close cooperation between Nigeria and Kenya.

Also on the delegation was the Kenyan high commissioner in Nigeria, Mr Alfred Machayo.

Lagos Police Issue Warning on Private Forces

AB142200 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The Lagos state police command has warned that it will regard as an illegal force any private organization or group of persons who arm themselves for the purpose of causing a breach of peace or achieving political or any other objective. The command issued the warning following the recovery of nine locally made double-barreled guns from a Lagos state security organization. Other items recovered from the organization included an axe, iron rods, machetes, and pillars. A man, who claimed to be the director of the security organization, and 12 of his employees have been arrested in connection with the arms. The police command advised security organizations in the state not to go beyond the authority establishing their existence. It also called on those who have acquired arms illegally to surrender them.

Foreign Military Bases in Africa Criticized

AB131035 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 13 Sep 83

[Daili Kuku commentary]

[Text] It is true that bilateral and multilateral cooperation among nations has contributed immensely to the rapid development of some countries, especially the developing ones. This is so because such cooperation, especially in trade, science, and technology has gone a long way to enhance the economic potentials of developing countries and spare them the pain of pioneering inventions which, at present, are costly and time-consuming ventures.

Since no country can live in isolation and the development of science and technology is based on adaptation and the integration of one culture from another, it becomes imperative for the developing countries to adapt or imitate some of the technological achievements of the developed nations so as to improve their scientific potentials. Such bilateral agreements that make way for exchange of ideas in science and technology and pave the way for profitable trade between the developing and developed economies are welcome, espeically in Africa where scientific help is crucial to genuine national progress.

However, some African leaders have neglected these laudable goals of bilateral cooperation among the developing and developed nations by turning their countries into military bases for one or the other of the superpowers. Some of them have even gone to the ridiculous extent of stationing foreign troops on their soil since they gained independence, all in the name of trying to preserve their sovereignty. What baffles the ordinary African is: Who are they afraid of? Is it their African neighbors who do not manufacture arms and are as helpless as themselves or an imaginary threat from the blues?

Some of the African leaders, on the other hand, are presently enjoying ground rents they obtain from certain military bases in their territories, notwithstanding how far they undermine their countries' sovereignty and expose the continent to another round of colonization.

Those of them who are decided to remain perpetually in power use these foreign military bases on their soil to intimidate and, in some outrageous cases, stifle opposition to their unpopular long stay in government.

It is rather pathetic that at this time when Europeans are fighting against the establishment of deadly weapons in Europe, some African leaders allow the big powers to establish military bases

in their countries with destructive weapons which they have no power to control their usage. [as heard]

Some time ago, when the British foreign minister was asked in Parliament whether or not the British cabinet would be able to veto the American Pershing 2 missiles in his country, he replied: I can't give that assurance now. With such a reply from the British cabinet, one starts to wonder what these African leaders would tell their people in case they are faced with such a question. These African leaders unfortunately still underestimate the danger of a global war, thinking that even if it does erupt, it will circumvent Africa. That is an unrealistic perception of the situation. By allowing the big powers to deploy military bases on their territories, these politicians, in fact, help create launching pads in Africa for a possible strike on other countries.

Such African countries have inadvertently turned themselves into targets for a possible retaliatory strike in case of a full-scale war between the big powers. They have ignorantly mortgaged the long-term interest of their people, which is security, for a short-term interest, which is based on materialism and personal greed to stay in power.

Since in the long run, they and their people will lose rather than gain anything from such military bases in their countries, such African leaders should review their neocolonial stands and take the security of the entire continent as a topmost priority. They must always remember that the destiny of Africa lies in their own hands and not that of any foreign country or body, no matter how benevolent or sympathetic they might be to our just cause for development and security.

SENEGAL

Niasse Reviews Mideast With Italy's Premier Craxi

PM141128 Rome Avanti! in Italian 10 Sep 83 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Craxi Examines Middle East Problems With Senegalese Premier"]

[Text] The prime minister has had a meeting with Senegalese Foreign Minister and acting Prime Minister Moustapha Niasse, chairman of the UN conference on Palestine. According to a Chigi Palace communique, Moustapha Niasse, on his way back from Geneva, informed Prime Minister Craxi of the results achieved by the conference on Palestine and of the new initiatives to be taken within the UN context. Niasse stressed the positive evolution that has emerged in the direction of a realistic assessment expressed by PLO representatives regarding the recognition of the state of Israel, and expressed appreciation for the Italian Government's stances on the Middle East crisis, especially regarding the developments in the Lebanese situation. During the conversation an examination was also made of matters concerning the development of relations between Italy and Senegal, partly within the framework of the implementation of the long-term bilateral economic and technological cooperation program. Moustapha Niasse, the communique concludes, conveyed to the prime minister a personal message from President of the Republic of Senegal Abdou Diouf.

UPPER VOLTA

Decree Retires Various Military Officers

AB141515 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Decree issued by National Council of the Revolution Chairman Captain Thomas Sankara on 13 September 1983 on the retirements of officers of the National Armed Forces — read by Lieutenant Daouda Traore]

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state, considering the 4 August 1983 proclamation, considering ordinance No 83-001 CNR of 4 August 1983 on the setting up of the CNR, decrees:

Article 1: Some officers of various branches and services of the National Armed forces Are hereby retired. They are:

National Gendarmery: Lieutenants Kabore Antoine, Yen Alphonse, Ouedraogo Ousmane, Nakoulma Philippe, and Ndo Louis.

Army: Major Kaboussie Applolinaire; Lieutenant Ouedraogo Hamidou, Traore Dramane, Mido Kadewa, Woval Kagnampore, Kipsa Sedogo, Yogo Bouraima, Bouena Sambo, Kemde Poko, Tiendrebeogo Toussaint, and Second Lieutenant Dagre Alain.

Article 2: Those concerned are hereby authorized to claim their retirement benefits.

Article 3: The present decree, which takes effect from 13 September 1983, will be recorded and published in the official gazette of the republic.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 13 September 1983 by Captain Thomas Sankara.

Noncommissioned Officers Retired

AB141530 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Decree issued by National Council of the Revolution Chairman Thomas Sankara on 13 September 1983 on the retirement of noncommissionedofficers of the National Armed Forces — read by Lieutenant Daouda Traore]

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state, considering the 4 August 1983 proclamation, considering the ordinance No 83-001 CNR of 4 August 1983 on the setting up of the CNR, decrees:

Article 1: Some noncommissioned officers of various branches and services of the National Armed Forces are hereby retired. They are:

National Gendarmery: Chief Warrant Officers Kabore Barnabe, Yonli Kanuada, Basse Bouraima, Drabo Tiemoko, Tombo Seremin, Kagambega Maurice, Kabore Sinse, Zoungrana

Albert, Nana Amadou; Master Warrant Officer Dabire Godfroy, Coulibaly Otien, Gbontoulgou Tougan, Kagambenag Dieudonne; Warrant Officers Banaba Dingri, Kabore Issa; Chief MDL [expansion unknown] Traore Sekou and MDL Wangre Yobi.

Army: Chief Warrant Officers Zongo Michel, Dabire Joseph, Tibo Congo Jerome, Yen Siberi, Kabore Albert, Baro Kalifa, Diara Sekou, Dankone Talata, Bambara Hubert, Zeba Hamidou, Yagibou Vincent, Somda Janvier; Warrant Officers Nana G. Louis, Ouedraogo Lambert, Dangre Hamidou; Master Sergeants Nikema T. Daniel, Yanogo Tenga Bernard, Lingani Noaga, Drabo Almami; and Sergeant Ouedraogo Alassane.

Air Force Base: Master Sergeant Kam Ole Pascal; Sergeants Drabo Kadour, and Idogo Issaka.

Article 2: Those concerned are hereby authorized to claim their retirement benefits.

Article 3: The present decree, which takes effect from 13 September 1983, will be recorded and published in the official gazette of the republic.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 13 September 1983 by Captain Thomas Sankara.

French PS Official's Visit, Remarks Reported

AB140945 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Jacques Huntzinger, the visiting international secretary of the French Socialist Party [PS] was received in audience last Monday for about 3 hours by President Thomas Sankara. Mr Huntzinger later stated that he and the head of state discussed in a very frank and friendly manner a series of questions, especially democracy, national independence and sovereignty, Libya, Chad, and the future of the Upper Voltan revolution. The French leader also specified that the purpose of his visit to Ouagadougou was to establish relations between the PS and the new Upper Voltan authorities.

Mr Huntzinger yesterday gave a press conference at the (Silmandou) Hotel in Ouagadougou in the presence of the members of the national press. During this press conference, many problems were discussed such as the relations between the PS and the National Council of the Revolution [CNR], the future of these relations, the idea of democracy as perceived by the PS, and the foreign policy and particularly the African policy of France. The international secretary of the PS stressed that the main purpose of his visit was to establish contact with our country's new political authorities because the PS and the CNR did not know each other, adding that his discussions with the country's authorities enabled him to know them better.

Mr Huntzinger said he noted a firm desire for dialogue on the part of the leaders of the CNR and pointed out some similarities between the policy of his party and that of the CNR. Concerning democracy, he said, the Upper Voltan authorities are determined to respect it by allowing the people to express their views and by effectively entrusting power to them. There is, therefore, a similarity because all the struggles undertaken by the PS are aimed at ensuring respect for democracy. Elements such as the people's participation in national development, the search for the well-being of the majority, and the struggle against corruption are common to the PS and the CNR. However, he said, each people has its specific character which the rulers must find out and respect. The French and Upper Voltan contexts are different, he added. For example, France practices the multi-party system whereas political parties have been dissolved in Upper Volta. In the field of foreign policy and particularly African policy, Mr Huntzinger said that the ruling PS is cooperating closely with all countries, whether moderate or progressive.

Questions concerning Chad, Libya, South Africa, and Western Sahara were also discussed. Concerning the Chadian tragedy and Libya, for example, Mr Huntzinger stressed France's desire to help the Chadians to solve their problems through dialogue. He admitted that many countries and people are afraid of Libya but added that as far as he is concerned, Libya is not present everywhere as some people want us to believe, and Libya is not responsible for the difficulties of the African countries.

Utility Company Official Removed from Office

AB141415 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Decree issued by the National Council of the Revolution in Ouagadou on 13 September 1983 terminating the appointment of director of the Upper Voltan Electric Company — read by second Lieutenant Daouda Traore]

[Text] The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state decrees:

Article 1: The duties of Konate Bata Mathias, registration No 1410007-04684, first class financial manager, grade 2, as the director of the Upper Voltan Electric Company have been terminated.

Article 2: Konate Bata Mathias is to contact the minister of finance for employment.

Article 3: The ministers of finance and of equipment and communications are each requested individually to see to the execution of this decree which comes into effect as of the date of its signature and which will be recorded and published in the Upper Voltan national gazette.

Ouagadougou, 13 September 1983. Signed: Captain Thomas Sankara.

ANGOLA

Lara: U.S. Wants To Destabilize Country

AB141616 Luanda ANGOP in French 1450 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Huambo, 14 Sep (ANGOP) — "The Reagan administration wants at all costs to destabilize our country in order to carry out the plans it has drawn up for the global strategy of the United States and of international imperialism," stated Lucio Lara, secretary to the party's Central Committee, in Huambo yesterday when addressing the assembly which presided over the inauguration ceremony of the regional military council of the fourth military region. Lucio Lara, who represented Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, specified that "South Africa is ingeniously exploiting the role assigned to it by its mentors and is intensifying its acts of aggression against Angola by increasingly arming puppet bandits not only against Angola but also against Mozambique, Lesotho, Botswana, and Zimbabwe."

After condemning the attacks launched by the Pretoria regime against sovereign neighboring states, Lucio Lara stressed the role of regional military councils in the struggle to defend national sovereignty against imperialist aggression and its agents. He also talked about the determination of the Angolan people to resist and to overcome all the difficulties and sacrifices "to emerge victorious in the war that has been imposed on the country," he said. He explained that this was a way of responding to immediate needs so that our action can be coordinated and coherent to ensure that the efforts of the party, the government, and those of the defense and security forces can put and end to the imperialist aggression against Angola.

The regional military council of the fourth military region, which includes the Angolan provinces of Huambo and Bieh, will be presided over by Lieutenant Colonel Joao Ernesto dos Santos (Liberdade), who is also provincial commissioner for Huambo. It also includes Lieutenant Colonel Marques Monakapui (Bassovava), also provincial commissioner for Bieh, as well as Major Armando Cruz Neto and Major Alberto Erneso Lando (Leopard), respectively commander and political commissioner for the fourth military region.

Luanda Quotes San Francisco Paper on KAL Plane

MB151035 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 7 Sep 83

[Text] The newspaper San Francisco *Examiner* reported that well informed military men and aviation experts admitted the possibility of the South Korean plane which violated the Soviet Union's airspace on the night of 31 August having flown with the aim of gathering secret information. An American official spokesman said that planes of countries considered as friends of the United States have been equipped in the United States with photogcaphic and movie cameras and other devices to gather secret information. He added that the information gathered is then handed over to the American Administration.

(Ernest Walkan), expert in state security matters and editor of *Defense Science Magazine*, said that planes of the South Korean airlines continuously violate Soviet airspace to gather secret information.

Meanwhile, official personalities pointed out that a number of these planes are manned by South Korean military pilots on duty.

Savimbi Cited on Dialogue with RSA, Cubans

MB141558 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The leader of the UNITA resistance movement in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says that as South Africa is a regional power in the subcontinent, there can be no stability in the area without talking to South Africa. In an interview broadcast on South African television, Dr Savimbi said talk about an armed struggle against South Africa was not realistic. He said that Africans should talk to South Africa to create mutual confidence and that, although there were disagreements over South Africa's policies, dialogue could solve these problems.

Dr Savimbi pointed out that South Africa had the technical expertise to develop not only itself but also surrounding countries. Dr Savimbi said that relations between his organization and South Africa were based on mutual respect and that South Africa had never imposed anything on or asked anything of UNITA. Dr Savimbi said that this was not true of the relationship between the Angolan Government and the Cubans and Russians. He said that the MPLA government in Angola could not do anything without the approval of the Russians and Cubans.

Dr Savimbi reiterated that the Cubans had no right to be in Angola and said that all sincere Africans should approve the withdrawal of the Cuban forces as a condition for new moves toward a settlement in South-West Africa/Namibia.

Further Johannesburg Report

MB150809 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] The leader of the UNITA resistance movement in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says his organization is in complete control of a third of Angola and that his followers are active in the remaining two-thirds. In an interview broadcast by South African television, Dr Savimbi said that over 50 percent of the Angolan population supported UNITA. He said this included people living in areas controlled by the government. Dr Savimbi said this meant that the MPLA government was a minority government and that it did not represent the will of the Angolan people. Therefore, the Angolan Government was not in a position to advocate elections in South-West Africa/Namibia, particularly as the Government of Angola itself was not prepared to hold elections.

Dr Savimbi charged that the Angolan Government had failed to govern the country properly and said that the condition of the people had deteriorated both materially and spiritually since independence from Portugal in 1975. He said the Angolan people were now demoralized and had lost faith in the authorities. It was

high time, Dr Savimbi said, that the MPLA government gave way to a government that would meet the aspirations of the Angolan people.

He said that as South Africa was a regional power in the subcontinent, there could be no stability in the area without a dialogue with South Africa.

UNITA Scores MPLA Sellout of Fatherland

MB120927 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 12 Sep 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The MPLA chieftain puppet group, which was installed in power by the force of Cubans arms, is blinded by a filthy subservience and believes in the invulnerability of the Cuban mercenary army and the goodwill of its Kremlin bosses. This treacherous group has been asking for tons of highly sophisticated war materiel. Naturally, the Moscow and Havana experts would not have agree to supply it without getting something in return.

The agreements for the sale of the Angolan fatherland to the Soviet Union were signed by the MPLA chieftains. Fully aware of their treason, the MPLA chieftains celebrated the arrival of Soviet weaponry at Luanda harbor and the dispatch of the country's wealth to Moscow and Havana banks. The chieftains are aware that the agreements that they have signed with the USSR and Cuba do not benefit the oppressed people of Angola.

The acquisition of Soviet weapons and the arrival of Soviet advisers in our country and the invasion by the Cuban expeditionary force have no other objective than the extermination of the Angolan people. An arsenal has been sent to Angola in exchange for our diamonds, iron, coffee, copper, oil, sugar, and fish. All these goods are being sent to the USSR and Cuba, as if weapons could feed the Angolan people and solve their problems.

In order to cover up their sins, the chieftains hold rallies and meetings during which they tell the people that the reason for bread shortages and famine is due to the South African incursions into Angola. Lies are the weapons used by the weak and cowardly.

If there is theft everywhere today, it is only because the Angolan people have nothing to eat and the government does not do anything to feed them. They lie as a means to deceive the people. An even more serious situation is that, while they sing the song of discipline and so on, the chieftains have shamefully engaged in black marketeering. The theft of diamonds and other resources is committed by the government and its chieftains, and in order to cover it up, they arrest and try innocent people in the so-called popular courts.

This confusion is going to end. The Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola have doubled their actions and are wiping out all servants of Cuban neocolonialism in Angola. Peace will prevail throughout the entire nation when the Cubans have been expelled and the black majority has taken over power.

Menongue is the starting point, and Luanda is the point of destination. The struggle triumphs. Only united around Comrade President Dr Savimbi will we win.

LESOTHO

LLA Statement Claims Responsibility for Attacks

MB141158 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1132 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Johannesburg, Sept 14, SAPA — The Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA] claims it inflicted heavy losses on the Lesotho Paramilitary Force [LPF] in a clash on Leribe Mountain last Sunday. In a statement from the political commissar of the LLA, phoned to SAPA in Johannesburg today, the LLA claimed responsibility for several incidents in Lesotho in recent weeks.

Of the most recent clash, the LLA said:

"On September 11 at 11.00 am, (Chief Leabua) Jonathan's forces attacked an LLA unit that was camping on Leribe Mountain. The battle took the whole of Sunday, throughout the night and ended on Monday morning. The LPF suffered heavy losses in this battle."

Other incidents for which the LLA claimed responsibility included the murder of Mr Thabo Ratlali on August 31. Mr Ratlali, who the LLA claim was a member of Chief Jonathan's "killing squad," died at his Morifi village.

On the same day an LLA unit attacked an LPF base camp at Qacha Nek, and claimed 17 LPF men died in the assault, while an armoury was destroyed.

On the night of September 4 an LLA unit attacked Mr Enoch Moliboea's home in the village of Khanyane in the Leribe district, the spokesman said, claiming Mr Moliboea had for many years been "terrorising innocent Basotho men and women at Leabua's pleasure." Mr Moliboea's whereabouts have been unknown since the attack.

The home of Mr Philip Feralotsi, "a notorious and most hated police volunteer reservist," was attacked on September 5 by an LLA unit. Mr Feralotsi escaped, "with very serious injuries," but two women, Mrs Mapotso Phamotse, and her daughter, Miss Ntebaleng Phamotse, were killed.

The statement claimed at least 15 LPF men died when an LLA unit attacked the home of Mr Lejula Mothiane at Saballa Makhoakhoeng on September 9. The house had allegedly been used as an extension of the LPF police camp at Saball Makhoakhoeng. Another house nearby was also destroyed and "all its occupants killed." In this attack the LLA lost one man, the spokesman added.

The LLA said it was waging a "liberation war" in Lesotho and anyone who became "unnecessary obstacles" hampering the progress of the war, would be considered "enemy."

MALAWI

Chirwa Presents Appeal; Case Adjourned to 15 Sep

MB141630 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] In the National Traditional Appeals Court, siting at (Tochi) in Blantyre today, the first appellant, Orton Chirwa, began arguing his grounds for appeal against the death sentence imposed by the Southern Region Traditional Court in May this year. Orton Chirwa and his wife Vera are appealing against both the conviction and the sentence.

Orton Chirwa, who has listed a wide range of grounds for his appeal, began this morning by maintaining that the lower court had no jurisdiction to hear, try, or determine his case. He said, among other things, that the lower court had no jurisdiction because the offense was not committed in the southern region and that the trial should have taken place where the offense was committed.

Giving his second grounds for appeal this afternoon, Orton Chirwa said that his trial was not fairly and impartially conducted by the lower court in that, he went on, the lower court was prejudiced against the two appelants. He alleged that the lower court showed partiality toward the prosecution.

The appeal case, which opened yesterday, is being heard by a panel of five judges under the chairmanship of [name indistinct]. The court has adjourned until tomorrow morning.

NIMIBIA

All Parties To Be Invited to Multiparty Meeting

MB141938 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Five political parties and alliances have decided at a meeting in Windhoek to convene a multiparty conference as soon as possible to discuss the political future of South-West Africa. It was also decided that all parties which could possibly have an interest in such a conference would be invited to attend in order to ensure maximum representation. The meeting at which the decisions were taken was attended by the Damara Council, SWAPO-Demodrats, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, the Rehoboth Liberation Front, and the South-West Africa National Union. A spokesman for the five bodies said full particulars of the planned conference would be announced before Thursday next week.

No Opposition to Botswana-Coast Railway Plan

MB150813 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 15 Sep 83

[Text] South-West Africa/Namibia will not be opposed to the construction of a railway line to connect the central coalfields of Botswana with the Atlantic Ocean if it could lead to greater cooperation in Southern Africa. A statement to this effect has been made by the office of the administrator-general in Windhoek.

In the statement it is mentioned that an official request has been received from the Botswana Government to go ahead with an investigation into the construction of such a railway. An earlier announcement said the Government of Botswana had called for tenders from eight foreign companies for a feasibility study on the construction of the proposed railway. The administrator-general's office said there were many economic and logistical aspects of such a scheme that would be highlighted by a feasibility study.

Another report from Windhoek says representatives of a British company have already visited South-West Africa/Namibia for investigations concerning the scheme. Representatives of other companies are expected in the territory soon.

DIE REPUBLIKEIN: Cubans Important in U.S. Elections

MB131319 Windhoek Die Republikein In Afrikaans 2 Sep 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Cuban Chess Game"]

[Text] The price of keeping the Cubans in Angola has increased significantly during the past week, not because of the rubles Russia is paying these hirelings for their dirty work for communism, but for the diplomatic weight their presence carries in Angola.

In Luanda President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has spelled out what he desires in exchange for a Cuban withdrawal. If South Africa withdraws from Angolan territory, stops punitive expeditions against Angola, UN Resolution 435 is immediatley implemented, and logistical support for UNITA cut, the Cubans will leave.

This is a mouthful from a man who, north of the South-West African border, is staggering because of a rebel war which apparently has no end.

First, the question is, what will the situation be in Angola if these demands are met? Nowhere is there a guarantee that Angola will stop playing its role of host to SWAPO. If Dos Santos get his way with his demands, SWAPO will enjoy freedom of movement in a neighboring state, from where it will carry out its hit-and-run warfare against its own flesh and blood in the south. There would be no punitive expeditions against SWAPO, and a well disposed UNITA would be deprived of its help or alleged help in the south.

That is the price tag that Dos Santos is hanging around the Cuban's necks.

Secondly, it is noticeable that the first steps are expected from South Africa and South-West Africa/Namibia. If the Dos Santos demands are met, the deal is that the Cubans will go home.

But suppose that each demand is met, and Dos Santos decides the Cubans must stay. A country can be expected to fall for such a diplomatic trick.

A third important consideration regarding the Cuban presence in Angola is America's presidential election. It appropriately places the MPLA in its greatest endurance test.

It is known that President Reagan and his Republicans would like to pull the proverbial rabbit out of the hat before election day. Should America get the Cubans out of Angola, and thereby clear the way for a solution to the South-West African quesiton, it would tilt the scale decisively in the incumbent President's favor.

The Cubans' provocation in Central America could force the United States to react more severly and even stop Cuba as an exporter of discord in various parts of the world. For the Americans it would mean sweet revenge for an old grudge against Cuba which began in the Kennedy era.

If the Americans contain Cuba, the incumbent President becomes president again.

Angola has an entirely new strategy for the Cubans in this corner of Africa. Should the Angolans keep the Cubans in Angola, despite American demands to Angola, at least until after a presidential election, it could be a decisive factor in the American election.

Ronald Reagan will then have to tell his voters that he failed to get the Cubans out of Africa and that the South-West African initiative consequently has not been fruitful.

In such a process Angola can hope for an American president who is more friendly disposed toward it and other African states, and who would cool the friendly relations between Washington and Pretoria.

The independence of South-West Africa is enmenshed in this web, and it seems it will remain enmeshed for a long time.

MOZAMBIQUE

TASS Report, PRAVDA on Airliner Tapes Cited

MB150840 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 12 Sep 83

[Text] Recordings released by the United States and alleging to represent the pilot who shot down the Korean airliner were fake, according to the Soviet news agency TASS. The TASS article said that the recordings had been fake from start to finish and were based on lies and gross manipulation of the facts. The article pointed out that the United States is now releasing a new version of the tapes, which differs from that played for the meeting of the UN Security Council.

Yesterday a BBC commentator reported that a fluent Russian translator he had given the tapes to had reported that they were unintelligible.

From Moscow the Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* has linked the shooting of the plane with U.S. pressure on Japan to increase its military buildup. It said the violation of Soviet airspace by the plane was a provocation by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon, which wanted to step up the militarization of Japan.

Meanwhile, the Federal German Government today announced a 3-week ban on flights to and from the Soviet Union in retaliation for the downing of the plane. Britain has also announced it will be instituting a ban on Soviet flights. Denmark plans similar action, and the Scandinavian Airlines have begun a 60-day suspension of landing rights on airlines flying between Denmark and Moscow.

Soviet Military Leader Cited on KAL Intrusion

MB151058 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 9 Sep 83

[Text] Marshall Nikolay Ogarkov, chief of general staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, has accused the United States of being fully responsible for the fate of the South Korean Airlines plane. Marshall Ogarkov was speaking during a press conference in Moscow today with the aim of concisely explaining the case of the South Korean plane.

The Soviet officer said that it has irrefutably been proved that the violation of the Soviet Union airspace by that plane had been deliberate espionage operation. The South Korean Jumbo flight was being controlled by the radars of the North American air traffic services and by the U.S. air defense system. Therefore, its course was not the result of an error, Marshall Ogarkov stressed. The chief of the Soviet Armed Forces said that there is proof that a number of urgent appeals had been made to identify the South Korean plane since the time it flew over the Kamchatka region until it approached Sakhalin Island.

Meanwhile, (Peter Varko), the Hungarian foreign minister [as heard], blamed the United States today for the incident involving the South Korean plane which was shot down by Soviet fighters. He was speaking in Madrid during the closing session of the European Security and Cooperation Conference. Earlier, the FRG minister of foreign affairs said during a luncheon with the U.S. secretary of state that Bonn could not satisfy the wishes of Washington to take direct retaliatory political measures against Moscow in view of the incident.

GDR Official Discusses Support in Health Field

MB141720 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Kurt Scheidler, member of the presidium of the GDR League for Friendship Among Peoples and lecturer in medicine in the GDR, was in Mozambique for several days on a friendly visit to inspect the health situation in the country. Speaking before his departure for Luanda yesterday, Kurt Scheidler, who is also the president of the GDR-Angola Friendship Committee, said he had discussed with Mozambique health officials means to support this sector in our country. Kurt Scheidler, who has been one of the main organizers of the health system in Berlin for the past 30 years, hailed the program for the creation of health centers in the communal villages of our country.

During his stay in Mozambique, the guest visited health centers, the Mozambique Association for Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples, and the deputy minister of health of our country.

Communique Issued on August Resistance Operations
MB130935 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese to Mozambique 0400 GMT 13 Sep 83

["Communique from the chief of general staff of the Mozambique national resistance" — date and place not given]

[Text] Communique:

Paragraph A. Disentegration of and crimes by the Machel army:

Zambezia and Niassa Provinces: The criminal Machel army, in an attempt to break the impact of our struggle and progress of our combatants, has been burning the vegetation and crops in various areas of Zambetia and Niassa, specifically from (Nhumbo), Milange district, up to the districts of Mecanhelas and Mandimba, Niassa Province.

Manica Province: In (Chimaume), Gondola region, Frelimo soldiers have been burning the houses and granaries of the local population and forcing them to move into communal villages.

Inhambane Province: Scores of Frelimo soldiers have been deserting from their ranks in this province. They come mainly from the Mabote area, which is being continuously hit by our forces. Most of them have surrendered to our liberating forces in Inhambane Province.

Gaza Province: The enemy continues its criminal campaign of poisoning wells and lagoons. Now the enemy has resorted to setting landmines near the wells in the areas of Conguene, (Macoi), Chigubo, Bala Bala, and Guija in the Canicado district. In Canicado the criminal Frelimo troops are instructed to carry out these activities which also include the kidnapping of local residents, who are then interned in communal villages in Bala Bala and Canicado.

The Mozambique national resistance requests the attention of the residents of the aforementioned areas and calls on them to take preventive measures against the criminal acts of the Frelimo troops.

Paragraph B — Operational Activity:

Zambezia Province: On 30 August our forces attacked an enemy position at (Muido) sawmill. The enemy fled soon after our forces approached the area, abandoning a total of 42 light weapons, AK-47's, and FBP's.

Manica Province: On 31 August our forces clashed with the enemy in the Maringue area. The enemy withdrew after suffering nine dead.

On the same day our combatants attacked and captured an enemy position between (Muezema) and Dombe. A total of eight Frelimo soldiers were killed, and several others were wounded during the battle.

Sofala Province: On 30 August our heroic combatants attacked the enemy position of (Mvugo), Caia. The enemy abandoned its position after suffering 10 dead and many wounded.

Inhambane Province: A truck carrying Frelimo troops detonated a landmine in the (Massavane) area, some 22 km from the city of Inhambane. The vehicle was completely destroyed. A total of 11 Frelimo soldiers were killed, and 3 were wounded. The action occurred on 28 August.

On 29 August our glorious forces clashed in the (?Maiene) region, 10 km north of Quissico. The Machel troops suffered many dead. The enemy fled in disarray, abandoning large quantities of materiel.

Gaza Province: On 27 August the enemy position at (?Chokwe), which protects the Limpopo agricultural and industrial complex, Cail, was attacked by our forces with heavy weapons. A number of installations were damaged or destroyed.

Maputo Province: On 22 August our forces attacked the enemy position of Machel with mortar fire. The shells hit the enemy garrison, causing a number of casualties among Frelimo soldiers. Several enemy installations were destroyed.

On 27 August the enemy position of Magude was attacked with 82-mm mortar fire. One vehicle and a number of military installations were destroyed.

SOUTH AFRICA

Commentator: Reagan Winning in Anti-USSR Drive
MB141209 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Sep 83

[Station commentary: "Aftermath of the KAL Atrocity"]

[Text] The Security Council debate and its 9-2 vote condemning the Soviets for shooting down a civilian airliner proceeded much as expected. Critics have dismissed the debate as a futile gesture, since the Soviet Union was obviously going to veto the American resolution. With similar reasoning, some have objected to the mildness of the punitive actions announced by President Ronald Reagan. They miss the point.

The American President is engaged in a far bigger assignment than making gestures, however tough. He is mobilizing government and public opinion behind the view that a fundamental Western reorientation in conducting international politics is overdue.

Judging by the world's reaction to the murder of 269 passengers on the Korean Boeing, he is succeeding. It has been suggested

that the gravest penalty that could be inflicted on the Soviets would be not any particular act of retribution but a vindication in the public mind of President Reagan's attitudes and policies towards the Kremlin and, flowing from that, a rallying of Congress and America's allies behind those policies.

When he assumed the presidency, Mr Reagan made it clear that a cornerstone of his foreign policy would be firm, comprehensive action to stop and even reverse the trend of Soviet global expansionism. The policy was based on his perception of the Soviet regime as aggressively imperialist, inherently evil, in both its methods and its purposes.

Among liberal politicians and their media, such perceptions were derided as emntional and unsophisticated, and the policies based on them as simplistic and dangerously misguided. Mr Reagan had stiff oppositon over his defense budget, the MX missile program, anticommunist policy in Central America, and deployment of nuclear missiles in Europe. In the past fortnight the tables turned. *Time* magazine was warning that the Soviets had shattered the reasonable image that they had been trying to project. Senator Edward Kennedy was calling on the President to take tougher action.

Such reactions suited Mr Reagan very well. He steered them striaght to the point. Members of Congress, he declared, must now ponder long and hard the Soviet aggression, as they consider the safety and security of our people — indeed, all people who believe in freedom.

When the Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1979, President Jimmy Carter said his eyes had been opened, and he ordered a grain boycott. Of policy changes and action to counter Soviet expansionism worldwide, however, there was nothing. In his reaction to the earlier atrocity President Reagan has refrained from boycotts and other dramatic gestures and concentrated on the nature and goals of the regime that perpetrated the crime. In so doing, he has opened the eyes of many of his critics and, by facilitating the future implementation of his foreign policies, has done vastly more to restore legality and humanity to the conduct of international affairs.

Durban Bomb Blast 'Not Sabotage Attempt'

MB142010 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1945 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Durban, Sept 14, SAPA — A "bomblet" that exploded outside the Wilson Rowntree Chocolate Factory in Umbilo Road last night was not a sabotage attempt, but an attention-getting exercise, according to police.

No one has claimed responsibility for the explosion. The size and positioning of the explosive device indicated that an amateur was responsible, rather than a trained saboteur, a police spokesman said.

Security branch explosives experts examined the scene shortly after the blast, but police have said only that a small bomb was involved.

The bomb — placed behind a low brick wall about a metre from the factory building — blew out a section of the wall, scattering a few bricks across Umbilo Road. There were no casualties. Crowds — attracted by the loud report — quickly gathered to see what had happened.

"Although last night's onlookers stayed behind the cordoned-off area, they do not realise that by congregating at a bomb site, they could be risking their lives," the spokesman said.

Black Population, Unemployment Increases Reported

MB141546 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The black population of South Africa increased by about 2.8 percent between June last year and June this year to 17,743,000. This includes citizens of the black national states. Figures released by the Central Statistical Services in Pretoria show that unemployment among blacks increased to 479,000 during the same period, an increase of 0.7 percent.

Spanish Army Chief of Staff Makes 10-Day Visit

MB141750 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] The Spanish Defense Ministry has confirmed that its army chief of staff, Lieutenant General (Ramon Descanio y Tegores), has completed a 10-day visit to South Africa. The ministry said in a statement that he had been the guest of the chief of the South African Army, General Jannie Geldenhuys.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Supports Cuban Forces in Angola

MB141930 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] President Kaunda has today reiterated Zambia's support for the presence of the Cuban troops in Angola. Dr Kaunda, who is in West Germany, said in an interview that the Cubans were in Angola to help the legitimate government there to counteract South Africa's unwarranted attacks. He said that South African forces have in the past launched constant attacks on Angola and were, in fact, at the moment on Angolan soil. Dr Kaunda said the Cubans were in Angola to help the Angolan Government, whose Army was less than 10 years ago a guerrilla force and only became a regular one after independence in 1975.

The president also said that, apart from the unprovoked attacks on Angola, the racist South Africans were also supporting the rebels seeking to overthrow the legitimate government. He said that because of these constant attacks staged by the South African regular Army, they needed the regular Cuban forces to contain the situation.

Officials Warned on Using Offices To Campaign

MB140829 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Party officials in Kitwe found using their offices to campaign for aspiring parliamentary candidates face severe disciplinary action. District Governor Raphael Mwale has said that the party will use everything at its disposal to ensure peaceful elections and deal ruthlessly with people bent on fomenting trouble. He told a packed hall that elections could cause a lot of divisions if the people were not careful and appealed to all peace-loving Zambians to ensure the elections were not marred by irresponsible behavior.

ZIMBABWE

Third Detained Airman Gains Release

MB141322 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] In Zimbabwe a third detained Air Force officer is to be freed tonight. Patty Briscoe, the wife of the detained Air Force officer, Peter Birscoe, says her husband will fly from Zimbabwe to London tonight.

Briscoe is a South African who was issued with an Irish passport while in detention. In Dublin an Irish Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesperson says Briscoe will be released sometime today.

Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe meets the U.S. President Roland Reagan tonight to discuss, among other things, the fate of the detainees. Briscoe was among the six Air Force officers acquitted of sabotage recently but immediately redetained. Two Air Force officers have already been released.

Radio Truth Commentary

MB121214 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 12 Sep 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] It is of more than passing interest that Herbert Ushewokunze took great pains last week to criticize the judgment of the six Air Force officers. Ushewokunze made his criticism on Wednesday, the very day Mugabe left on his grand tour of several countries, including Russia and America.

Ushewokunze made special reference to the fact that Justice Dumbutshena had rejected the credibility of the police witnesses. The minister said: During the Rhodesian era the credibility of the police was never questioned but that the reverse held true since independence. He also criticized Mr Justice Dumbutshena for not due cognisance of the fact of the cost of the aircraft destroyed at Thornhill. Obviously, the entire tenor of Ushewokunze's statement was a singling out of the judge as being procolonial era and anti-independence and ZANU-PF, which he might well be.

However, might Radio Truth point out that, for one thing, the police have no credibility today because they, under Ushewokunze, have jointly destroyed any credibility they once had. Secondly, if the airmen were innocent, as the judge found them to be, the cost of the aircraft destroyed does not affect his judgment one way or another. Even Ushewokunze can not be stupid enough to think otherwise.

But what is of interest is the timing of Ushewokunze's diatribe. With Mugabe on another begging bowl tour of the United States, is it possible the six airmen will be suddenly be released on the very day Mugabe is to meet President Reagan? Such a move would deflate any arguments Mr Reagan might be preparing to use against Mugabe and Zimbabwe. On the other hand, could Mugabe be preparing to play the biggest bluff of all on behalf of his communist masters?

Consider if you will: Mugabe arrives in Washington. The six airmen are still in detention, and through a mixture of bluff and wounded dignity, Mugabe manages to leave Washington with the men still in detention and with more American aid in his packet. If he were to pull off such a coup, he would emerge as a very strong leader indeed, and he would be rightly recognized as such by his peers. America would be humbled to the point where never again could she complain about anything that happens in Zimbabwe. Nor could she do much when any other tinpot dictatorship decided to pull the bald eagle's tail.

It is an interesting scenario, and if we are correct, we wonder if Mugabe will have the nerve to pull it off. He is a violently egotistical man, but he has never been even a vaguely courageous one, so perhaps his courage might fail him, even if his ego sustains him.

Streets in Harare To Be Reopened to Public

MB141850 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Sep 83

[Text] Chancellor Avenue is to be opened to the public from 0600 to 1800 with effect from next Friday. The minister of local government and town planning, Comrade Enos Chikowore, made this annoucement in the House of Assembly today. Comrade Chikowore added that the 5th Street extension, which was closed to the public last January 21, will also now be opened 24 hours.

The minister made these remarks while replying to questions from the Republican Front member of parliament for (Boroughdale), Brigadier (Jim Crockett).